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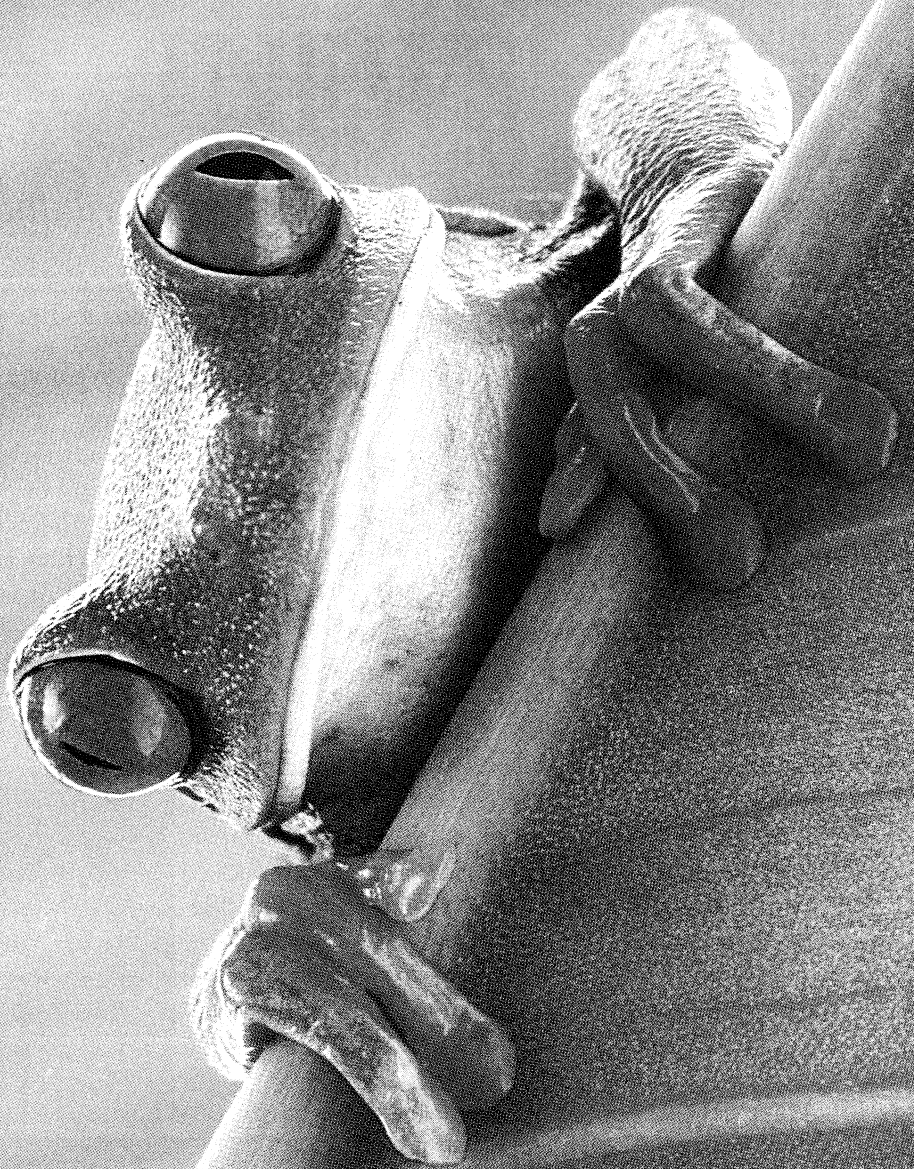


# HSUS NEWS

THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES

SPRING 1995

VOL. 40 NO. 2





# PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

## Expanding Our Mission

*We extend the arm of our protection to wildlife*

Since its founding in 1954, The HSUS has assisted in the establishment of local animal shelters throughout the country. We remain dedicated to the task of forming working partnerships with front-line workers who care for the literally millions of companion animals passing through these facilities, and we continue to seek creative ways of sharing their critical and enormous animal-protection responsibility. Through the work of our ten HSUS regional offices and our Washington, D.C.—based staff, we are regularly involved in evaluating animal-sheltering operations nationwide and, through the generosity of the Elinor Patterson Baker Trust, assisting many shelters to upgrade and expand their programs and facilities. The HSUS is fully committed to the principle that, so long as it remains necessary to incarcerate companion animals in either public or private shelters, these creatures deserve care marked by excellence and provided in an environment that alleviates their suffering.

While in no way diminishing the concern we all share for companion animals, isn't it time we bring the benefits of our emerging expertise in sheltering and providing sanctuary to the threatened populations of wildlife whose habitat is disappearing before our eyes? From time to time we have provided technical and financial assistance to wildlife-rehabilitation facilities

and to wild creatures confined because they could no longer survive on their own. However, until recently, The HSUS has not been aggressively involved in this arena.

In launching the HSUS Wildlife Land Trust we extend the arm of our protection to wildlife. The HSUS has formally initiated a systematic program of wildlife rescue, protection, and habitat preservation inaugurated by a major gift of land and financial support from Barbara and Charles Birdsey.

Under the direction of John F. Kullberg, Ed.D., former president of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the HSUS Wildlife Land Trust is pressing toward the goal of establishing at least one land holding in every state by the year 2000.

I invite you to join this important work. The HSUS Wildlife Land Trust must have an endowment to protect its lands in perpetuity. Your contributions are essential. If you are able to make a financial contribution, or if you are one of the fortunate few who can consider a gift of land, please let us know. Dr. Kullberg's article on page 36 more fully explains this exciting program opportunity. The power we have as the members of The HSUS unites

us in this task. It will make a profound difference for the animals we seek to protect and for future generations that will share the Earth with these creatures. ■



Paul G. Irwin, President

*Paul G. Irwin*

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# SPOTLIGHT

NOTES,  
COMMENT,  
AND MISCEL-  
LANEY FROM  
THE HSUS

## MODEL NIKI TAYLOR

(below), who has appeared on more than a hundred international magazine covers, chose The HSUS to receive a \$5,000 donation in her name as part of *Seventeen* magazine's fiftieth anniversary celebration. "I chose to give to the Humane Society [HSUS] because of [its] global concern for the preservation and treatment of all animals—be it whales or dolphins caught in fishing nets, or seabirds and fish engulfed in tanker oil spills," said Ms. Taylor in *Seventeen*'s October 1994 anniversary issue.

According to Janice Grossman, vice president and group publisher of *Seventeen*, who forwarded the donation, "We



became involved with a number of our *Seventeen* alumni by helping them to 'give back' to the causes that are near and dear to them. As you know, celebrities are important role models for our young people, and we are proud to help them set good examples. We are pleased to enclose a check, and send with it our best wishes for continued success in the important work that you do."

Tom Scholz (above), head of the popular rock group Boston, and the DTS Charitable Foundation recently donated \$5,000 in profits from

Boston's 1994 album, *Walk On*, to help The HSUS educate people about the cruelties of wearing fur. *Walk On*'s liner notes encourage listeners to contact The HSUS for information about the fur issue.

"We hope this exposure will prove helpful to your efforts—keep up the good work," said Mr. Scholz, Boston's lead guitarist and songwriter.

The HSUS is also grateful for a donation of \$500 made available by the parents of HSUS/HSI staff veterinarian Steven Kritsick, D.V.M., who died in January 1994.

The HSUS appreciates the generous support of all who help us to develop and implement our many programs to protect animals.

## HUNTING, TRAPPING,

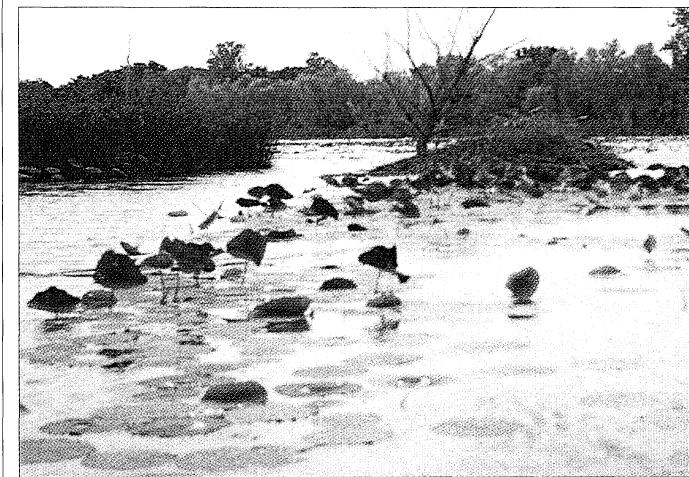
grazing, and other activities harmful to wildlife and its habitats occur with regularity on lands that are part of the National Wildlife Refuge System. The HSUS and the Wildlife Refuge Reform Coalition have long opposed these destructive activities. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) recently completed a review of all secondary uses of refuge land to determine whether each use met the legal requirement of being compatible with each refuge's primary purpose. The review was pursuant to a lawsuit lodged by the National Audubon Society, Defenders of Wildlife, and the Wilderness Society.

After evaluating more than 5,600 secondary uses occur-

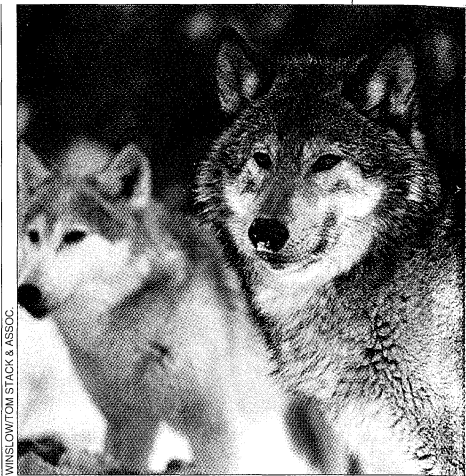
ring on five hundred national wildlife refuges, the FWS has determined that fewer than a hundred uses require correction. Not one of the more than 275 hunting programs on refuges was found to be incompatible with refuge purposes, although one will be subject to further review. Horseback riding, pecan collecting, camping, jogging, and sunbathing, however, were found to be problematic. Ironically, on the Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge in Oklahoma, where all types of hunting (shotgun, bow, and rifle) are permitted, the FWS determined that pic-

nic and camping might disturb wildlife and habitat and should therefore be disallowed!

The HSUS is deeply concerned about these findings. You can help by writing to Mollie Beattie (Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1849 C St., NW, Washington, DC 20240), telling her that these findings are an outrage and that hunting should be



A beaver lodge on the Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge would appear to be unthreatened by picnickers or campers.



Alaskan gray timber wolves feed on an elk carcass. Alaska's wolf-control program has been suspended after a public furor.

prohibited in all areas that have been designated as wildlife refuges.

**LAST DECEMBER** a renewed outburst of public outrage finally forced the suspension of Alaska's so-called wolf-control program. The reaction was a response to the nationwide broadcast of ghastly video footage showing the deaths of four snared wolves at the hands of an Alaska fish



and game official. The video, taken by biologist Gordon Haber, showed one young wolf who had chewed off his forefoot while trying in vain to escape a snare, and an Alaskan official callously shooting another wolf five times before killing him/her.

Viewing the broadcast was Alaska's governor-elect, Tony Knowles (above), who immediately called Alaska's game commissioner to express his disgust. The commissioner suspended the wolf-control program. Upon taking office Governor Knowles ordered its complete review. The HSUS believes that this review will show what we have asserted all along, that the killing of Alaska's wild wolves is a cruel and unnecessary response to hunters' claims that the wolves are reducing the hunters' supplies of moose and caribou.

As a show of goodwill toward the new administration in Alaska, HSUS President Paul G. Irwin wrote to then-governor-elect Knowles announcing the end of The HSUS's Alaska-tourism boycott (see the Winter 1994 *HSUS News*). In his letter Mr. Irwin called on the governor-elect to work with The HSUS and others "in a new, cooperative dialogue to develop a humane, ecologically sensitive, and biologically sensible wildlife-stewardship program."

Meanwhile, efforts to end same-day airborne hunting across Alaska continue (see

the Winter and Fall 1994 *HSUS News*). At the January 1995 Alaska Board of Fish and Game meeting, an HSUS representative testified on behalf of three proposals to ban the cruel practice. The proposals were rejected, but The HSUS is optimistic about two board members to be appointed by Governor Knowles this spring. We look forward to greater

success in moving Alaska toward humane, ecologically sound wildlife policies.

## FEBRUARY 3 MARKED

the one-year anniversary of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)'s approval of a genetically engineered hormone, rBGH, designed to increase cows' milk production (see the Spring 1994 *HSUS*

*News*). The HSUS had previously criticized this approval; now, many of the animal-health consequences that were predicted have been documented. Nearly three hundred farmers have reported to a farmers' "rBGH hotline" that some cows have died and others have suffered side effects after injection with rBGH. These have included sponta-

## GRAY WOLVES START NEW LIFE IN YELLOWSTONE

**G**ray wolves have returned to Yellowstone National Park. The fourteen wolves released in Yellowstone this winter were the first in the park in sixty years.

Yellowstone's new wolves started their difficult journey in the mountains of Alberta, Canada. In preparation for the project, American and Canadian biologists live-trapped, radio-collared, and released members of several packs. When the wolf-reintroduction program was approved under the auspices

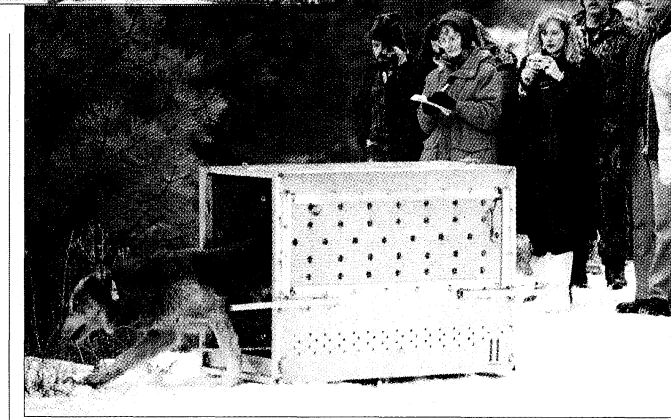
of the Endangered Species Act (see the Fall and Winter 1994 issues of *HSUS News*), the biologists quickly located the radio-collared animals and began to capture pack members. The HSUS closely followed the capture and transport of the canid colonists. Tragically, one wolf was killed during capture when a tranquilizer dart penetrated her lung.

Other perils—of the legal kind—lay in wait. After the wolves were crated and air-

borne, a poorly timed, last-ditch legal maneuver on the part of the American Farm Bureau Federation threatened to block their release into the wild. Attorneys exchanged motions and countermotions. The HSUS jumped to the

wolves' defense, delivering to the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals an impassioned plea for the animals' welfare from HSUS President Paul G. Irwin. Within hours, the court ordered the wolves' release.

At this writing, Yellowstone's fourteen new wolves are reportedly doing well. Assuming continued good health of the wolves and no further legal delays, the three packs were scheduled to leave their enclosures and begin to fend for themselves in March. □



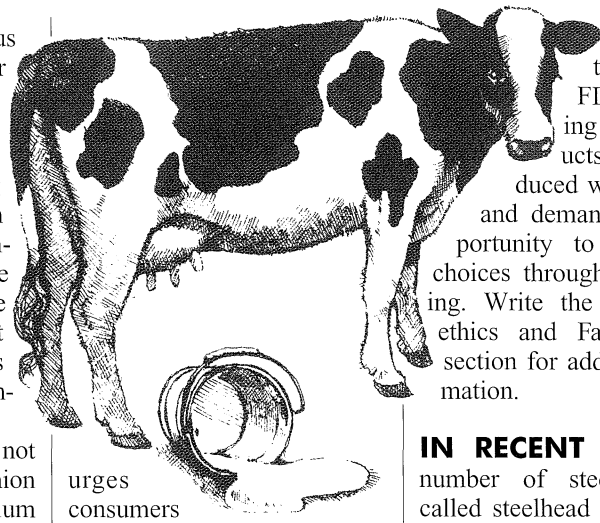
Wolf-recovery staff and wildlife officials watch as a wolf is released in Idaho. Inset: A U.S. biologist checks a gray wolf captured in Canada for relocation to Yellowstone.



neous abortions and serious outbreaks of mastitis (udder infections).

Farmers and consumers continue to speak out against rBGH. According to recent polls, more than 90 percent of all dairy farmers have refused to use the drug, and 80 percent of the public is concerned about the human-health hazards of foods from animals injected with rBGH.

The use of this drug is not inevitable: the European Union has extended its moratorium on commercial use of rBGH until the year 2000. The HSUS



urges consumers to continue to send a strong anti-rBGH message to the

dairy industry and the FDA by choosing dairy products that are produced without rBGH and demanding the opportunity to make such choices through clear labeling. Write the HSUS Bioethics and Farm Animals section for additional information.

**IN RECENT YEARS** the number of steelhead (also called steelhead trout) returning to spawn each winter through the Ballard Locks in Seattle, Washington, has declined sharply. Many have blamed this decline on a few sea lions who catch steelhead as the fish approach the locks on their way to their spawning grounds.

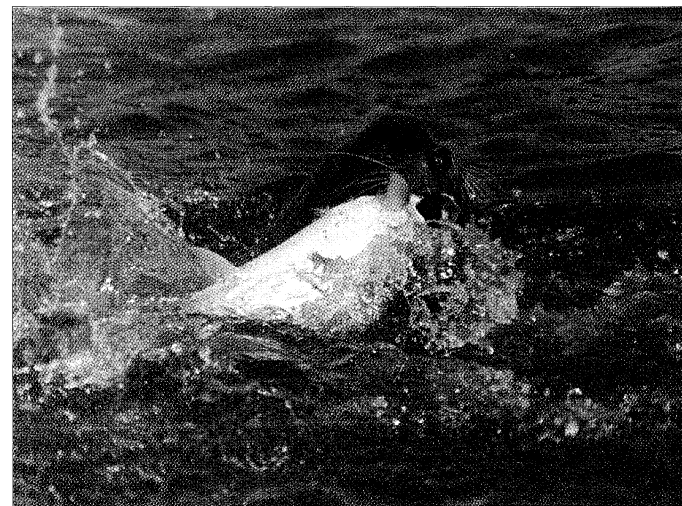
In a misguided effort to save declining fish populations, the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) was amended in 1994 to allow states to apply for permits to kill sea lions and seals that feed on these fish. In January Washington State received

such a permit from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), despite the fervent opposition of The HSUS and others.

Sea lions are only the most visible threat to the steelhead population in this area. The spawning grounds have been seriously degraded by rampant development, dam building, and unsound logging practices. Many juvenile steelhead, still in their ocean homes, are accidentally killed by high-seas drift netting.

Killing sea lions at Ballard Locks without attending to the other threats to the steelhead population will not save the few remaining steelhead. We are poised to bring suit against the NMFS if even one sea lion is targeted for death.

Sea lions would pose no threat to the steelhead if federal and state agencies would implement a long-term, comprehensive recovery plan. Sea lions and steelhead coexisted for thousands of years before humans upset the balance, first by hunting sea lions to near extinction and then by damaging the steelhead's habitat.



A sea lion dines on steelhead. Washington's permit allows the killing of sea lions at Ballard Locks over the next three years.

#### IN MEMORIAM: MAX SCHNAPP 1904-1995

The HSUS family has lost a great friend and colleague, and the animal-protection movement has lost one of its most passionate figures. Max Schnapp was always ready to engage all comers in a public exchange of words and convictions. He was truly a champion of abused and neglected animals.

Especially concerned by the abuse and suffering experienced by animals subjected to kosher slaughter, Mr. Schnapp would vigorously importune HSUS staff at every annual conference to give this issue major priority. As a consequence The HSUS was at the forefront of organizations financing and promoting a vastly improved conveyor and restraining sys-

tem developed by Temple Grandin, Ph.D.

As president of New York's Pet Owners Protective Association, Mr. Schnapp battled persistently to ensure that apartment dwellers would be guaranteed the right to own pets. The *New York Times* credited him with New York City's adoption of the dwellers' ordinance in 1983. He also led the successful movement in New York State to ban the sale of shelter animals to research laboratories.

Mr. Schnapp was awarded the HSUS Joseph Wood Krutch Medal at the HSUS national conference in 1985. The citation accompanying the medal closed with these words: "The Humane Society of the United States is pleased to present its highest honor to Max Schnapp, an impatient and persistent fighter for animals." So he was until the end of his life, on January 10, 1995.

#### LEGISLATION

## Saving the Endangered Species Act

### *A powerful lifeline for animals is at risk*

The federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), enacted in 1973, has been called the strongest wildlife-protection law in the country. The act has proven to be a powerful lifeline for animals and plants at the brink of extinction.

As of January 1995 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) had placed 927 plant and animal species found in the United States and 535 foreign species on the ESA protection list. Seven U.S. species have recovered to the point of no longer needing ESA protection and an additional 238 are stable or improving, according to the FWS.

Bald eagles now soar in skies from which they had vanished, and California gray whales migrate along the western coast of the United States in growing numbers. The bald eagle is being officially downgraded from "endangered" to the less critical "threatened" status, and the

gray whale has been removed from the list entirely.

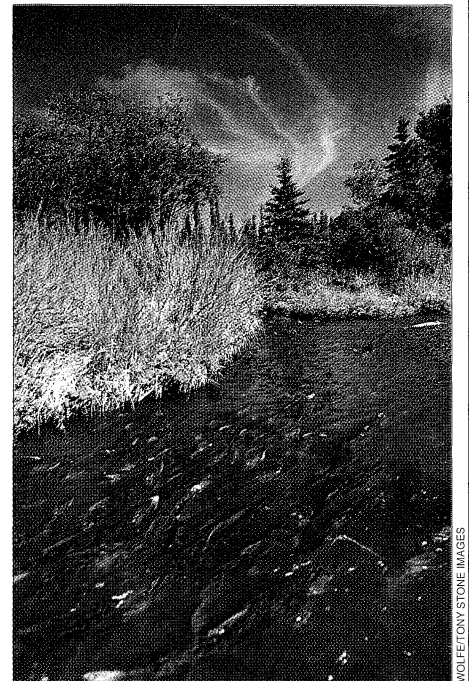
But such successes do not guarantee universal support of the ESA. Even though public-opinion polls consistently show that Americans overwhelmingly favor the ESA, its enemies are becoming more visible and more vocal. Nowhere is this more evident than in the U.S. Congress, where a major battle over reauthorization of the act looms.

#### The Political Landscape

As a result of the emergence of a Republican majority in November's elections, the political landscape on Capitol Hill has changed considerably. The HSUS as an animal-protection advocate must find new allies to assist in moving our agenda forward. A part of that agenda will be seeking to protect the ESA itself, as well as the many species it protects.



The bald eagle has returned to U.S. skies; the species is being officially downgraded from endangered status under the ESA to the less critical threatened status.



Threatened in the lower forty-eight states, sockeye salmon spawn in Alaska, where the species is doing well.

Unfortunately, some new members of Congress used attacks on the ESA as major components of their campaigns. At an anti-ESA "endangered-salmon bake," Rep. Helen Chenoweth of Idaho was asked whether she believes the sockeye salmon truly deserves its endangered-species status. "How can I, when you can . . . buy a can of salmon off the shelf in [the supermarket]?" she replied. Like Representative Chenoweth, several members of Congress believe that, because certain species are thriving in one location, there is no need to protect or restore their populations in other locations. Salmon, grizzly bears, and gray wolves, for example, are doing well in Alaska but are threatened in the lower forty-eight states. Rep. Sonny Bono of California, the former entertainer, also campaigned against the ESA. "Give [endangered species] a designated area and then blow it up," he said.

Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison of Texas, who handily won reelection, has put the ESA first on her list of "Top Ten Worst-Case Regulations." She is cochairing the Senate Republican Regulatory Relief

Task Force and introduced legislation to freeze the ESA in its tracks. Her concerns apparently are motivated by the endangered status of the golden-cheeked warbler, which has been labeled a threat to development in Travis County, Texas.

These kinds of salvos never come from only one political party. Oklahoma Democrat Rep. Bill Brewster has voiced his concern that the ESA not restrict fishing, hunting, or trapping. And Rep. Billy Tauzin of Louisiana has proven to be a champion of the "private-property-rights movement," which has made the ESA a prime target.

The timing for an ESA debate in the U.S. Congress could not be worse, but it is unavoidable. Congress has traditionally reauthorized the act for three-to-five-year periods, choosing to reevaluate it at the end of each period. This should have occurred after 1991, but Democratic leaders chose simply to continue funding the act rather than risk a reauthorization battle, in part because of the debate raging in the Pacific Northwest over logging versus the threatened spotted owl.

Rep. Don Young of Alaska, chairman of the House Resources Committee, has vowed that the stalling will come to an end, that the act will be reauthorized—for better or worse—or it will go unfunded by Congress. He has promised that his committee will approve and report to the full House a reauthorization bill within the first six months of 1995.

But Representative Young is no friend to Washington's environmental lobby, which he refers to as "the most despicable group of individuals I've ever been around." His special ESA task force is chaired by Rep. Richard Pombo of California. During the last Congress, Representative Pombo introduced a bill to amend the ESA that would have eliminated all protection for bald eagles, wolves, grizzly bears, Pacific salmon, and other species. The bill failed to come to a vote.

Whether the House guts the ESA, as many fear it will, may depend on a handful of Republicans who favor a strong ESA and Democrats such as Reps. George Miller of California and Gerry Studds of Massachusetts, who are expected to champion the ESA cause. Speaker



*"Give [endangered species] a designated area and then blow it up."*

...  
**Sonny Bono**

Congressional Representative from California



*"You can . . . buy a can of salmon off the shelf in [the supermarket]."*

...  
**Helen Chenoweth**

Congressional Representative from Idaho

of the House Newt Gingrich of Georgia could also play a pivotal role. In the last Congress, he cosponsored Representative Studds's ESA-reauthorization bill, a bill that was favored by The HSUS.

The Senate is expected to move more slowly on reauthorization. The Environment and Public Works Committee, chaired by ESA proponent Sen. John Chafee of Rhode Island, is not expected to approve a reauthorization bill until late 1995 at the earliest. Senator Chafee will receive support for a strong ESA bill from the Democrats on his committee, and we hope some Republican senators will also give support.

#### Opponents of the ESA

Few burdens for implementing the ESA fall on private citizens. Under the ESA, private citizens are prohibited from harming endangered animals. Businesses may be affected by the ESA when they use resources (such as timber, livestock feed, or minerals) on public lands, need a federal permit to drain wetlands, or require government funding for development projects. Although the ESA does little harm to private enterprise, it has become a prime target of the "wise-use" and extreme private-property-rights movements.

With benign names such as the Endangered Species Roundtable, the organizational fronts for the wise-use movement are well funded by mining, timber, and other interests that extract resources from public lands. These groups see the ESA, with its habitat-protection provisions, as a major threat to their ability to profit from publicly owned resources.

To build opposition to the ESA, the wise-use movement relies on imagined scenarios of economic devastation and job loss. When the cutting of old-growth timber on federal lands in the Pacific Northwest was restricted to protect the spotted owl, the "wise-users" predicted ruin, impoverishment, and the loss of a hundred thousand jobs. But in Oregon, formerly the center of old-growth timber cutting, a hundred thousand jobs were added to the economy in 1993-94, and unemployment is at its lowest level in a generation.

Likewise, the closely aligned private-property-rights movement relies on scare

tactics to attack the ESA. The act's prohibition against destroying the habitat of the Stephens' kangaroo rat (which is more closely related to the squirrel than to the rat) was blamed for the destruction of several homes in the devastating wildfires that swept southern California in October 1993. Allegedly the act prevented homeowners from clearing firebreaks to protect their homes from the advancing flames.

But last year the U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) firmly dismissed those accusations. No firebreaks could have stopped the one-hundred-foot-high walls of flame which, driven by eighty-mile-per-hour winds, jumped interstate highways, agricultural fields, and the San Diego canal, according to the GAO. Nevertheless, those touting property rights still use this incident to bolster their calls to gut the ESA.

#### Why Save the ESA?

The HSUS believes that imperiled plant and animal species should be saved for their own sakes. But some people require more pragmatic, self-serving reasons to save such species.

For instance, the ESA serves as an early-warning system for imperiled ecosystems. The disappearance of the bald eagle in many areas was a warning of the threat posed to humans by the dangerous and persistent pesticide DDT. The banning of DDT and the protection of the eagle under the ESA and other laws brought our national symbol back from the brink of extinction and protected human health in the process.

The ESA safeguards many of the species upon which we rely for lifesaving medicines to fight cancer and other serious diseases. The drug Taxol®, one of the most promising new treatments for ovarian and breast cancer, comes from the bark of the Pacific yew tree, found primarily in the endangered old-growth forests of the Pacific Northwest.

The ESA protects jobs as well as animals. The multi-billion-dollar pharmaceutical industry relies on substances derived from nature for more than 25 percent of prescriptions distributed in the United States. Many who earn a living by fishing threatened salmon populations also real-

ize that a strong ESA will help to ensure their long-term economic health.

Numerous communities, rather than mocking the ESA with endangered-salmon bakes and spotted-owl roasts, are realizing that protected species can be a major tourist attraction. In fact, endangered species draw \$55 billion annually into the U.S. tourist industry, according to a recent study. The citizens of Sauk Prairie, Wisconsin, celebrate Bald Eagle

Days that channel \$1 million annually into the local economy. Manatees are big business in Florida, as are whale watches in California and Massachusetts.

The HSUS has long been committed to the protection of all animals and to ensuring biodiversity. Reauthorization of a strong ESA will continue to be our top legislative priority.—Aaron Medlock, J.D., HSUS legislative policy analyst; Allen T. Rutberg, Ph.D., HSUS senior scientist

## WILDLIFE

### ADC's Lethal Actions *Agency undercuts its claims of change*

**W**hen the federal Animal Damage Control program (ADC) was transferred from the U.S. Department of the Interior to the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 1986, ADC's top officials pledged to seek and use non-lethal means of controlling wildlife-caused damage on federal lands. Gone, they claimed, were the massive poisoning

and trapping-and-shooting campaigns for which the program was infamous.

Despite the promises and the new policies reflecting them, the ADC program in practice never really changed. Wildlife continues to be poisoned, trapped, and shot—millions of animals each year. In fact, the number of coyotes killed in livestock-protection efforts in western states



*The number of coyotes killed in livestock-protection efforts in western states has increased substantially since the ADC's administrative transfer in 1986.*



has increased substantially since the ADC's administrative transfer. Now there are signs that the ADC aims to increase its use of the most notorious wildlife poison in history, Compound 1080.

Compound 1080 is one of the most acutely toxic chemicals ever developed. Because of this extreme toxicity, its use now is limited to the livestock-protection (or toxic) collar.

The toxic collar is fitted around the neck of a lamb or goat. A coyote attacking an animal around the throat may puncture the collar's rubber bladders containing the poison and ingest a lethal dose. Unlike most other lethal ADC activities, poisoning by toxic collar is supposed to affect only the animal targeted for death. But collars pose a risk to any human or animal who comes in contact with them, either during routine handling or if they become separated from the lamb or goat. Furthermore, a poisoned animal may not die until several hours after the poison is ingested.

ADC officials recently proposed to expand toxic-collar use beyond the five states—Montana, New Mexico, South Dakota, Texas, and Wyoming—where it has been allowed since the late 1980s. At the request of ADC officials and livestock producers, Oregon's Department of Agriculture is now considering using the col-



Toxic collars were affixed to livestock by U.S. government staff in research field trials conducted in the late 1970s and early 1980s in Colorado.

lar. ADC officials have stated that they believe the collar should be introduced in Ohio and Virginia as well as in Idaho, California, and Utah, bringing the total number of states involved to eleven. Use of the collar in states with relatively high human populations, like Ohio and California, is of particular concern.

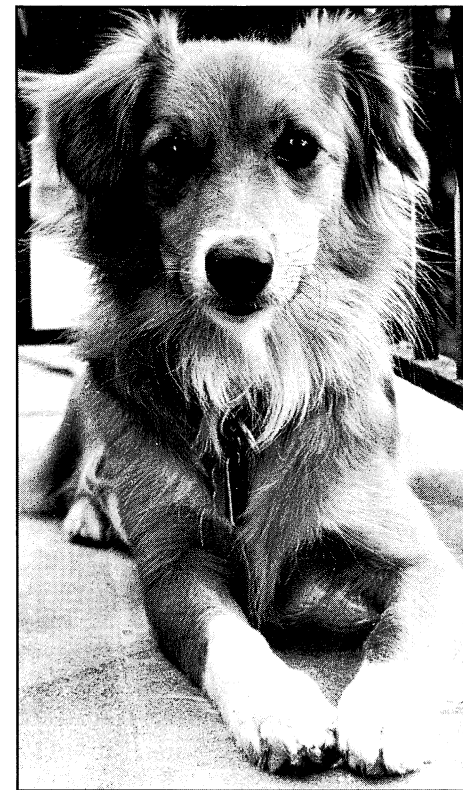
Opponents to 1080 can find some en-

couragement in a recent decision of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding 1080 use in Texas. At the urging of Texas livestock producers, that state's Department of Agriculture requested in 1994 that the EPA grant the department permission to expand the use of 1080 to wildlife-rabies control. Specifically, Texas requested a whopping thirty pounds of 1080 and proposed using it in forty-three counties. Although the Texas rabies *epizootic* (outbreak) is largely confined to foxes and coyotes, the state's proposal called for targeting a number of species, including raccoons, skunks, bobcats, and ringtails. The HSUS provided extensive comments to the EPA, citing evidence of the ineffectiveness of poisoning as a means of rabies control and recommending that the state instead focus on public education, vaccination of pets, and distribution of rabies vaccine to fox and coyote populations. In December 1994 the EPA denied the Texas request.

Please contact officials of the ADC to express your opposition to expansion of 1080-toxic-collar use. Address your letters to Bobby R. Acord, Deputy Administrator, ADC-APHIS-USDA, PO Box 96464, Room 1624, South Building, Washington, DC 20090-6464.—Susan Hagood, HSUS wildlife issues specialist



Under the ADC program, millions of animals each year continue to be poisoned, trapped, and shot, despite agency promises and policies to the contrary.



## Reflect for a moment . . . how can I help animals even when I no longer share their world . . . ?

Through your bequest for animal protection to The Humane Society of the United States, your will can provide for animals after you're gone.

Naming The HSUS demonstrates your lasting commitment to animal protection and strengthens the society for this task. We will be happy to send information about our animal programs and material that will assist in planning a will.

Please send: Will information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mail in confidence to: Murdaugh S. Madden, Vice President/Senior Counsel, The Humane Society of the United States, 2100 L St., NW, Washington, DC 20037.

# ANIMAL ACTIVIST ALERT

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**AAA readers get results!**  
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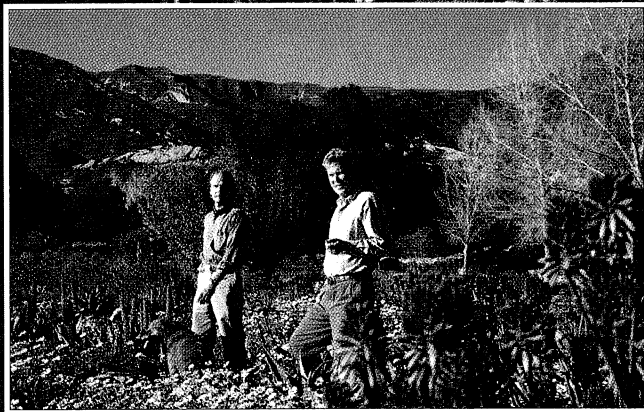
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# FROM GARDEN TO WILDERNESS

A PLACE TO KNOW AND WORK WITH NATURE

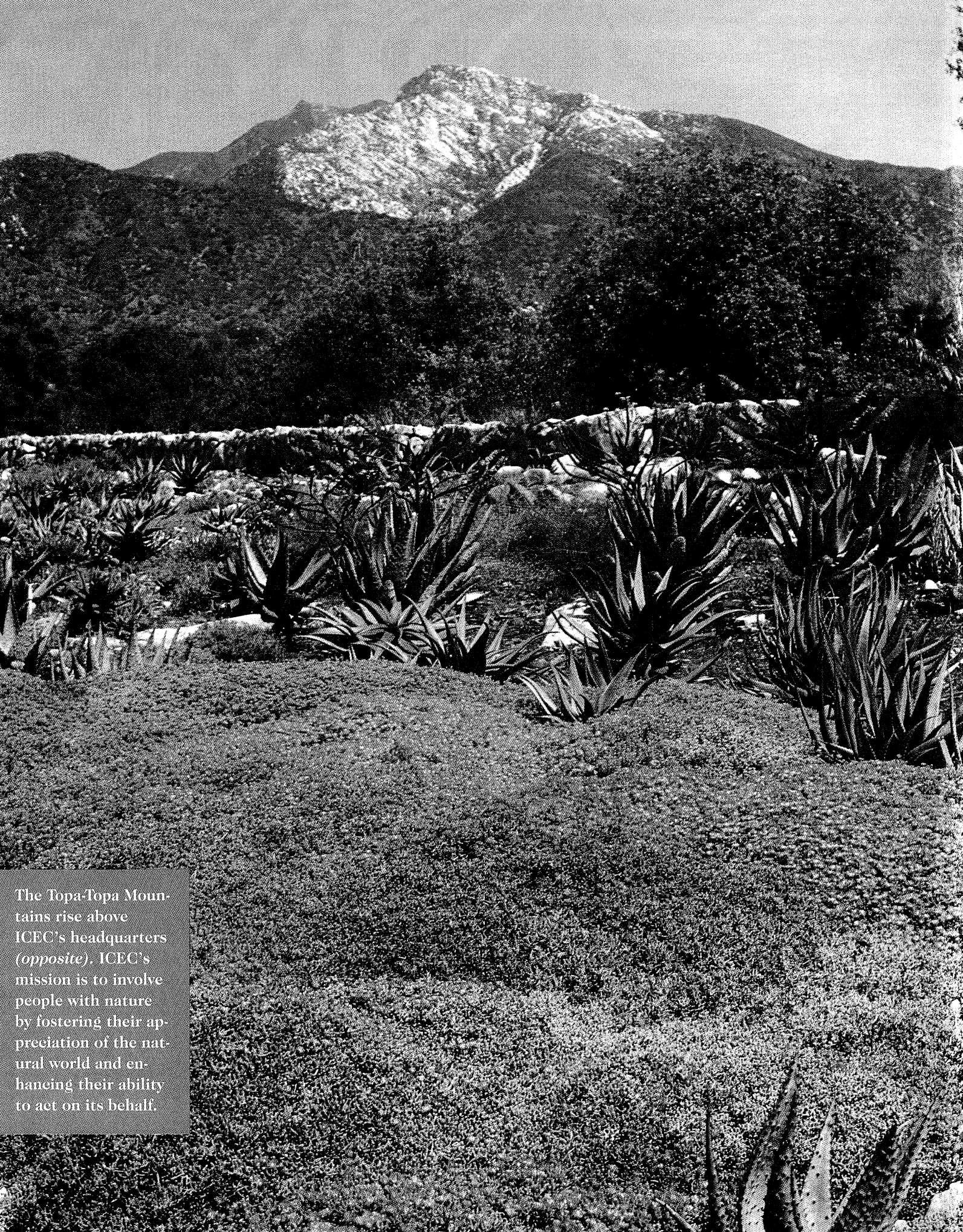
THE FLOOD-waters had not yet receded, so my dog, "Amber," and I hiked across the water-soaked ground and through dripping sagebrush for about twenty minutes, ending up on a small hill overlooking the canyon. Below us, as we crested the ridge, three hundred acres of botanical gardens and meadows glistened in the intermittent sunlight. Fresh, electric-green meadows encircled the garden, which glinted with red and yellow highlights of South African aloes that had recently burst into bloom. The soft gray-green of the California live oaks was a foil for the bright orange, conelike flowers of the Australian banksias. Surrounding all this were the Topa-Topa Mountains, rising through mist and low clouds, with small waterfalls springing out of every crevice and flashing in the rays of sunlight as they splashed down the



BY VANCE G. MARTIN

Spectacular gardens on the grounds of ICEC headquarters display a wide variety of desert-acclimated plant life. *Inset:* Vance Martin (left), John Taft, and Amber enjoy the fruits of many years of labor in Ojai.





The Topa-Topa Mountains rise above ICEC's headquarters (opposite). ICEC's mission is to involve people with nature by fostering their appreciation of the natural world and enhancing their ability to act on its behalf.

rocks. The creek far below me, normally ten feet at its widest, was a raging torrent fifty yards wide.

A year of rain had fallen in less than twenty-four hours, so nature had her way with us. But as I stood on the ridge, I was in awe of the power and beauty of nature.

• • •

The International Center for Earth Concerns (ICEC), located in southern California's Ojai Valley, is not only blessed with stunning botanical gardens surrounded by wild vegetation, but is also growing to include a multipurpose conference facility with an on-site environmental education program and a global agenda of projects that bring exciting new potential to the work of The HSUS.

The ICEC story began when longtime wildlife activist—and HSUS board member—John Taft purchased a 350-acre ranch in 1971. It was a remote canyon, damaged by years of overgrazing and choked with chaparral brush, with groves of gnarled California live oak scattered across the hills and down the rocky barrancas. Mr. Taft and his wife, Melody, worked hard to clear the brush and eventually planted trees and shrubs and built stone walls on the property. As they worked, an idea took shape: they would transform the canyon into an educational and inspirational force for the understanding and protection of nature.

During ten years of work in the canyon and travel to South Africa, Australia, and elsewhere, the Tafts began to build a conceptual and actual framework for their project. Stone-lined paths meandered through a natural garden of plants from similar, yet widely separated, climates and habitats. An open-air amphitheater was built under the oak trees for visitors to celebrate the spirits of nature and culture through music, art, and philosophical discourse.

Over the years the Tafts became interested in the work of The HSUS, and Mr. Taft was elected to the HSUS board of directors in 1988. In The HSUS he discovered a group of people imbued with similar principles and dedicated to putting them into action. HSUS officers and members visited the canyon from time to time, and in 1993 pianist Trudy Hoyt (wife of HSUS Chief Executive Officer John A. Hoyt) gave a benefit concert for EarthKind in ICEC's amphitheater. The power and inspi-

DON CRILLO



THOMAS STREET PORTER

## ICEC HELPS PEOPLE EXPERIENCE THE NATURAL WORLD AND EMBRACE THEIR ROLE AS RESPONSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS.

ration of the event in that setting convinced many people that here was a place in which the HSUS philosophy and ethic could take root. The idea emerged of an international center concerned with a humane approach to sustainable living on Earth.

The way in which ICEC has grown and is now flourishing is a demonstration of organizational cooperation and financial economy. ICEC was founded and financed originally by The HSUS, the Conservation Endowment Fund (which owns the property at Ojai and was established by the Taft family years ago), and the International Wilderness Leadership Foundation (WILD). All have distinct programs but share some goals. Combining the resources of the three organizations and moving WILD headquarters to Ojai have reduced operating costs and guaranteed a basic budget for several years. As a consequence donors' funds can go directly to work on programs of the center.

ICEC's mission is to involve people with nature by fostering their appreciation of the natural world and enhancing their ability to act on its behalf. Through environmental education and training, ICEC helps people experience the natural world and embrace their role as responsible envi-

ronmental stewards. ICEC's commitment to action is demonstrated through a wide range of practical projects that help save wildlife and protect wildlands.

ICEC's work is divided into two categories: on-site programs and international projects. At the Ojai Valley site, a multifaceted program is emerging in the botanical gardens and the adjacent wilderness areas that emphasizes leadership and a humane approach to nature conservation through environmental education and training. Seminars, cultural events, and planning retreats will be held in the open-air amphitheater and in the Pavilion Conference Center, slated for completion within the year. ICEC will serve selected school groups and teacher-training organizations through its natural classroom—the gardens, canyons, meadows, and hills of Ojai. EarthShop, a conference and lecture series, will feature international leaders in environmental education, animal protection, the arts, religion, and philosophy. A project soon to be launched will focus the public's attention on the need to save endangered tree species both here and abroad.

International projects are already under way in Africa, Asia, and elsewhere. ICEC has become involved with, and supports, the Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF) in Namibia (see the Summer 1993 *HSUS News*). Laurie Marker-Kraus and Dan Kraus, founders of CCF, were in Ojai in October for a series of fund-raising events. Based in Namibia since 1990, the husband-and-wife team has already helped to decrease the numbers of endangered cheetahs being killed in the wild in that country; their program is beginning to spread elsewhere in southern Africa. ICEC is also a supporter of, and key participant in, the sixth World Wilderness Congress, which convenes in Bangalore, India, in 1996.

It is only natural that ICEC's plans are as vast and varied as its surroundings. Its mission is honed daily to sharpen its contribution to the HSUS outreach. Your participation in this process is indispensable. As a member of The HSUS, you are always welcome to visit us. Please contact us at ICEC, 2162 Baldwin Rd., Ojai, CA 93023, to arrange for an appointment.

*Vance G. Martin is the executive director of ICEC.*

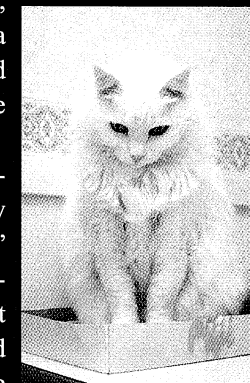




## COMMUNICATION WITH THE FELINES IN YOUR LIFE SHOULD BE A TWO-WAY STREET

THIS IS, PERHAPS, A STRANGE ADMISSION FOR somebody who cares for dogs and cats on a professional basis. But truth be told, whereas dogs and I have a natural affinity, cats have taken a bit of effort. I absolutely understand dogs, and feel that I always have. Loud barks, shy whines, tilted ears, droopy tails, everything a dog "says" by both voice and gesture makes immediate sense to me. But cats...

It was not until my college years, when I made my first close cat friend, "Max," that I began to learn the wonderful truths about cats—that not only do they respond with their own brand of love to a loving human hand, but they are also interested enough in the people around them to respond to a human-given name. Two dogs and two cats share my home today; I frankly cannot imagine a life without them. "Blanche," an elderly, regal, long-haired white cat, and the clownish "Lilly" are the dear and important feline members of my family. Still, I sometimes find myself struggling to understand them—to make sense



*Left and inset: Blanche embodies the beautiful, quiet, observant feline nature Kenneth White describes.*

BY KENNETH D. WHITE

# MORE THAN A MEOW



of what they're obviously wishing to communicate—in a way that is never necessary when I'm chatting with the dogs.

Key to cat communication, and a fact that clearly flies in the face of most overtly anti-cat mythology, is a recognition that cats are social rather than solitary animals. As social animals (like all other social animals, from ants to zebras, and certainly including humans) cats have a language that facilitates social interaction.

Understanding cat communication is not merely an amusing parlor trick for people who share their homes with feline friends—it

is a necessity. An estimated 36 percent of U.S. households have a total of sixty million cats as family members, according to a recent survey. Cats and owners who do not "speak" to each other are likely to experience problems: cats may refuse to use a litter box; they may scratch the furniture. They may display threatening behavior such as hissing; they may even bite. These feline activities can result from any number of things, including illness or injury. But a physically healthy cat, frustrated by unmet needs in spite of what are to the cat clearly delivered messages, may exhibit such behaviors, too. Shelters across the country routinely receive cats surrendered by their humans because of the cats' behavioral problems. As inconvenient as a breakdown in communication may be for the human caretakers, the impact on the cats themselves is nothing short of tragic. Euthanasia is most commonly the result.

Social animals do not change into anti-social monsters suddenly or without reason. If we do not understand our cats' needs and decode the messages intended to communicate those needs, feline behavior may deteriorate. Understanding is the key to peaceful, mutually beneficial coexistence.

How did the complex relationship between cats and humans evolve? In all likelihood early human settlements provided some irresistible meal opportunities for our domestic cats' ancestors: the humans' food itself and the rodent populations (always delectable to cats) that were drawn to grain stores. This likely cautious initial approach resulted in a cooperative relationship ("You eat the rodents destroying our grain, and we won't eat you") and eventual domestication.

Any discussion of the cat/human relationship is likely to lead to a discussion of the cat/cat relationship. Cats are known for their curious mixture of sociability and independence in relationship both to humans and to each other. The bottom line in both cases? Food! As reported in a recent newsletter from the

Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine (*Catnip*, vol. 2, no. 6, September 1994), food appears to be the defining factor in how cats function in groups. "When food is plentiful, cats can happily coexist," reports Nicholas Dodman, B.V.M.S., M.R.C.V.S., the director of the veterinary school's Behavior Clinic.

Tufts University veterinary staff further noted that cats, while territorial, will adapt to increased numbers of their own kind by decreasing the territory each claims. Such adjustments, observed by researchers in field studies of abandoned and feral cats living on their own, are also observed by those of us who have brought a second or third cat into our homes. Typically, cat number one reacts to the intrusion with an aggressive display (hackles up, nasty vocalizations, sometimes scent or urine

marking) rather than an actual attack. Later, cat number one carves off what he/she finds as the essential parts of what was previously unchallenged real estate. Typically, food and water bowls, litter boxes, the coziest sleeping stations, and the favorite person are declared "off limits," through overtly hostile gestures, to cat number two. Human caretakers who are respectful and patient will make it clear (by providing extra beds, bowls, litter boxes, and "quality time") that there is still plenty of everything to go around. The result is a peaceful and—if the chemistry is right—collegial multiple-cat household. However, realistic caretakers should not necessarily expect all cats to share every chair, eat out of a single food bowl, and live in each other's pockets at some given time in the future.

Researchers delineate four distinct con-

centric categories of "social geography" for cats in the wild. The innermost circle is the "personal distance," an intimate touching distance open only to other cats to whom he/she is bonded. Dr. Dodman offers as examples mothers and kittens and adult cats who sleep together or groom each other. Certainly the human caretaker who watches TV with the purring cat asleep on the lap has been invited into this personal distance, or perhaps has even become a part of it. The second, larger, circle is termed the "social distance" and is open to friends only; cats, either indoors or outdoors, who lounge and rest in relatively close proximity but go on the alert at the approach of a third animal may be sharing such a social distance. In many houses, the pet feline may sleep on one person's lap and only occasionally allow the touch of a second per-

son; the second person is welcome within the cat's social distance but not within personal distance. Other household cats may fall into this category as well.

Studies define the next geographic ring, "territory," as the area that a cat will defend against interlopers, and the outermost ring, "home range," as the broadest area routinely traveled by a cat. The parallels continue as we look at our own indoor companion cats, home range obviously being the house itself.

Though we can't be certain that this concentric-circle model of territoriality—based on studies of outdoor cats living on their own—is entirely accurate for the household cat, it is clear that our companions do have an obvious interest in "turf." And it is equally true that they assert their status and interest vis-à-vis their various

what are they saying?

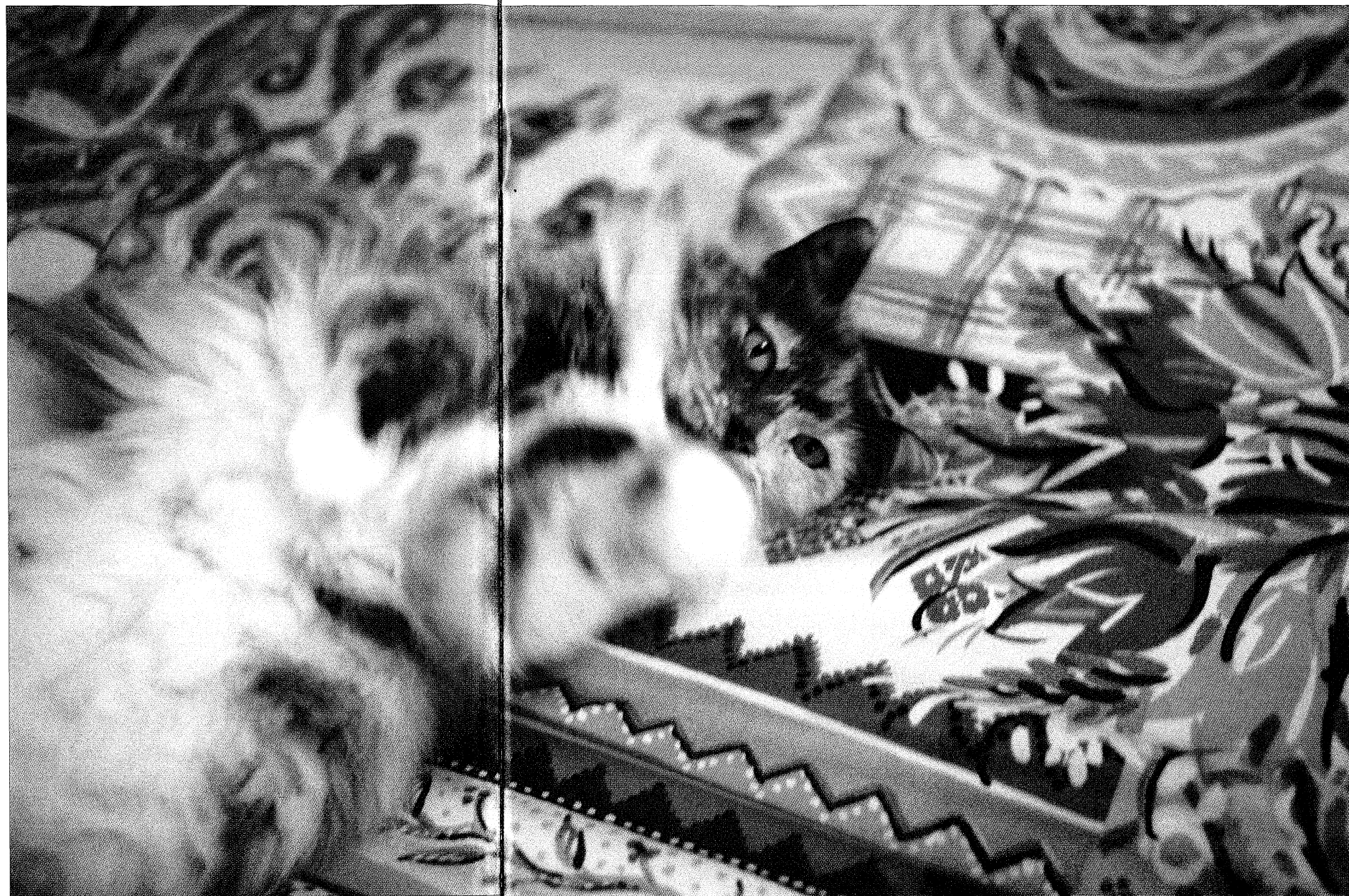
My cats say plenty! These wonderfully loving animals eloquently express both affection and concern. They let me know when they wish to play and when to cuddle. As I have been drafting this article at home, both Lilly and Blanche have taken turns kneading my lap and rubbing against my hand and pen. The meaning of these messages seems to include both "I was here" and "This is mine," as well as "I love you." I'm also willing to believe that they're offering editorial commentary. Surely animals so beautiful, so obviously observant, so able to sit quietly and unseen until they wish to be seen, have much to tell us. ■

*Kenneth D. White is HSUS vice president, Companion Animals and Field Services.*

The Whites' clownish Lilly relaxes at home. A cat's vocabulary includes sound, body posture, scent, and touch. She can let her caretakers—and canine members of the family—know when she wishes to play and when to cuddle.

geographic boundaries, as well as other points of concern, through many different means of communication. Scientific studies concur with what any observant pet owner knows: a cat's "vocabulary" includes sound, body posture, scent, and touch.

Even for the most observant of cat owners, the most mysterious of these means of communication is a cat's ability to leave and "read" scents, odors too subtle for our big but inefficient noses. With special scent-producing glands positioned on paws and between eye and ear, charming behaviors we observe as kneading and head rubbing are actually feline forms of communication. By such means, cats mark objects, people, and each other with their own distinct odors. And







HSI CHINA & TAIWAN

# PRESCRIPTION FOR MISERY

**W**hen Suzie looked into the paper sack, she saw two fresh bear paws, pungent, with white, fatty deposits at the point where the paws had been severed. According to the clerk at the Kunming shop, for the equivalent of US\$82, she could buy both paws and serve them up in a stew with herbs. But Suzie should decide soon, because, according to the clerk, a pair of bear paws like these, taken from bears in northeastern China, rarely went unsold for more than a few weeks. At other shops in Guangzhou, Suzie could purchase 11 pounds of whole gallbladders, roughly equivalent to 44 dead bears, for around US\$20,000 or drink a shot glass of bear-bile juice for US\$3.50.

The history of traditional Chinese medicine dates back to 2838 B.C., about one hundred years after the dawn of Chinese civilization. Fewer than 10 percent of the 1,892 ingredients listed in one of the most famous Chinese herbal guides are "animal" parts; most of these are from insects. Medicinal uses of bear were first recorded in the seventh century A.D. Bear gallbladder and bile are commonly prescribed for chronic illnesses of the human stomach, liver, gallbladder, and spleen. Bear bile is also used as a cosmetic to improve the tone of the skin or give the eyes a glow. Bear bones are prescribed for rheumatism.

Bear paws are consumed for their general positive health effects and are considered to be one of the eight most precious delicacies in Chinese cuisine.

Each of Asia's five bear species—the brown bear, the Asiatic black bear, the giant panda, the sun bear, and the sloth bear—has suffered from hunting undertaken to supply the Chinese medicinal trade, as well as from the habitat destruction that threatens all the Earth's wildlife. With the exception of the panda, little is known about the population levels of any of these bears other than that they are in decline. Most species of Asian bears are listed on Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES); international commercial trade in Appendix

I animals is forbidden. However, some Asian populations of the brown bear are listed only on CITES's Appendix II, which means that they may be traded by permit.

North America's bear species, especially the American black bear and brown bear, are also being poached to supply parts for the Chinese medicinal trade, as are the brown bears of Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula.

In the 1980s China recognized that its supply of wild bears for use in traditional

medicine was running out. Instead of trying to discourage the use of bears, China began experimenting with the extraction of bear bile from living, captive bears as a

**IN 1994 KEITH AND SUZIE CHANG HIGHLEY CONDUCTED AN UNDERCOVER INVESTIGATION INTO THE TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINAL TRADE IN BEAR PARTS AND PRODUCTS IN CHINA AND TAIWAN FOR HSUS/HSI. THEY ALSO INVESTIGATED THE BEAR FARMS OF CHINA. THEIR FINDINGS WERE PUBLISHED IN BEAR FARMING AND TRADE IN CHINA AND TAIWAN, WHICH IS ABSTRACTED HERE.**

The Asiatic black bear is one of Asia's bear species that suffer from hunting undertaken to supply the Chinese medicinal trade. The bears suffer as well from the habitat destruction that threatens all the Earth's wildlife.

THE WORK OF THE HSUS'S HUMANE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL (HSI) ENCOMPASSES IMPORTANT PROJECTS ALL OVER THE WORLD. HERE IS A BRIEF REPORT ON THE MOST RECENT OF THESE ACTIVITIES.

HUMANESOCIETYINTERNATIONAL



purported conservation measure. According to Chinese officials, the bile produced by a single captive bear in one year is equal to that obtained by killing 44 wild bears, and, over a bear's five-year production span, 220 wild bears' lives are spared.

In 1989, when China adopted its Wild Animal Protection Law, the capture of wild bears and sale of their parts were banned, but the sale of bear bile originating from China's government-sanctioned bear farms remained legal. The law also allowed bear farmers to keep the bears they had captured from the wild prior to 1989. Given this, it is not surprising that Keith and Suzie Chang Highley found products containing bile produced on government-sanctioned bear farms to be widely available in each of the four cities they visited.

### A DIRTY BUSINESS

A close look at China's bear farms reveals them to be a dirty business, rife with animal abuse, boldly profiteering in endangered species. Farm bears are often held in metal three-by-three-by-four-foot cages raised a few feet off the ground, hardly large enough for a bear to stand up or move around in. Feces, urine, spilled food, water, and often vomit collect on the ground below the cages and form a smelly fly-blown mass. The bears are forced to sit, stand, or lie on thin-diameter metal wire day and night. Bears are individually housed, although they generally sit side by side in rows of cages. The bears are often observed in a state of apparent dementia, weaving, pacing, and banging their heads against their cages.

There are two known methods the Chinese use to extract bile from, or "milk," living bears. Bears at some farms wear metal abdominal plates, held tightly in place by a harness. The plates conceal a catheter and a collection sack into which the bile drains. The plates stop the bears from clawing at the catheter and pulling it out. Larger bears are milked once a day—smaller animals once every three days. During milking the bear is forced into one corner of his/her cage and held in place by metal poles inserted through the cage. The metal abdominal plate is removed and the bile is extracted from the collection bag with a hypodermic needle,



**A bear in a Chinese zoo begs for food from a member of the public. Bears are taken from the wild in China to supply zoos as well as bear farms.**

a process that takes about five minutes. Milking is very stressful for the bears, and they fight to free themselves during the entire process.

At other farms bears have had stainless steel taps surgically implanted in their abdomens. The taps, which are similar in function to a water faucet in that they can be turned on and off, are considered by some to be superior to catheter bile collection. Since the natural function of bile is to break down fats in the diet, constant drainage of bile from catheterized bears is probably harmful to their health. Catheters are prone to leaking and the introduction of infection, whereas the taps can be flushed out to reduce the chance of infection. However, tapped bears have been observed with infected wounds where the taps enter the abdomen.

The Chinese government seems determined to convince the international conservation community to accept the milking of farm-bred bears as a legitimate alternative to capturing wild bears to supply the trade in bear parts and products. But as the Highleys discovered, few if any of China's bear farms, which number in the hundreds and hold as many as 10,000 bears, actually breed bears. Bear-farm personnel interviewed by the Highleys admitted that bears are routinely captured

from the wild for a life of incarceration, a further detriment to China's—and the rest of Asia's—already endangered wild-bear populations.

At the Guangzhou City Tianhu Deer Farm, a business financially backed by a Taiwanese investor, 50 Asian black bears produce 220 pounds of bile each year at a profit of US\$69,000. The manager of this farm told the Highleys that, in order to increase the farm's output, he would simply capture more bears. A manager from another bear farm told the Highleys that he gets young bears from Burma and China. A product distributor for a bear farm in Ruili said that none of the farm's 300 bears is from captive-bred stock. He also said Taiwanese nationals regularly visit his shop and hand carry up to 18 pounds of bile crystals (worth, wholesale, US\$901 per pound) back to Taiwan in suitcases. They also frequently inquire about purchasing whole bear gallbladders, which can only be obtained from dead bears. The sale of whole gallbladders is illegal under China's Wild Animal Protection Law.

The continued availability of whole bear gallbladders and paws, most taken from wild bears, according to store clerks and managers, is a testament to the lack of enforcement of this law. Four of the thirteen pharmacies the Highleys visited in Guangzhou offered whole bear gallbladders for sale. The amount of whole gallbladder sold in the shops is startling. One store had just sold its entire stock of 18 pounds (the equivalent of 70 dead bears) to a visitor from Taiwan who had hoped to purchase even more. The manager had already begun collecting more whole gallbladders to sell to the next buyer.

Other bear contraband was found at the Beijing Lou restaurant in Dalian's Regent Hotel, where braised bear paws were advertised on an illuminated sign. A waitress at the restaurant claimed the fare was popular as a banquet entree and was sold "by the table" for US\$576 or more, depending on the number of diners.

### WEALTH FUELS TRADE

In the last decade, a newly wealthy Taiwan has emerged as a leading consumer of endangered-species products. By 1989 the country had acquired a reputation as the greatest threat to the survival of the

African rhinoceros. Caged tigers were paraded through the streets on truck beds while loudspeakers blared the date, time, and location of the big cats' impending slaughter.

The Taiwanese people's appetite for bear parts and products and their bottomless pocketbooks are fueling bear poaching worldwide and encouraging more and more bear farming in China. Taiwanese investors are pouring money into the development of China's bear farms. They also travel abroad to buy bear parts and products and to participate in "wildlife eating tours" in China, Vietnam, Thailand, Burma, and Cambodia.

In June 1989 Taiwan enacted the Wildlife Conservation Law, which banned the sale of any species of bear, except the North American black bear (which was added to CITES's Appendix II in 1992). However, because of the difficulty in distinguishing the bile and gallbladders of bears banned from trade from those of North American black bears, the govern-

ment has never enforced this ban. The effect is that trade in the parts of any bear species is allowed.

Of forty-four Taiwan pharmacies visited by the Highleys, twenty-seven either possessed or could obtain bear gallbladder and were willing to sell it either whole or as an ingredient in prescription medicine; eleven said they did not have bear gallbladders in their possession; another five possessed bear gallbladders but were not willing to sell them to the Highleys; and one stocked only bile crystals from farmed bears. The average retail price for an average-sized, 4-ounce gallbladder in Taiwan is US\$3,435. This is seven times the wholesale price for a whole bear gallbladder purchased in China, demonstrating that Taiwanese entrepreneurs are making big dollars from dead bears. The Highleys estimate that between nine thousand and eighteen thousand whole gallbladders (translate: 9,000 to 18,000 dead bears)

may be dispensed annually by Taiwan's registered pharmacies.

### TIME FOR CHANGE

Even if China's wildlife authorities were willing to stamp out the trade in endangered species, effective enforcement remains a daunting task. Three principal reasons are the growing spending power of a small portion of the Chinese population; continued demand for contraband products from Taiwanese, Korean, and other foreign nationals; and increased provincial autonomy and lack of provincial law enforcement in China. As organized crime, graft, and corruption increase (factors that show the central government



**Ailing bears in a bear farm's quarantine area languish in the hot sun, on bare wire, in small cages without food or water. Inset: Bear-bile crystals offered for sale are a common sight in hotel gift shops.**



is losing its grip on Chinese society), the status of the country's—and region's—bears and other wildlife can only worsen.

The time has come for the government of China to enforce aggressively its ban on the killing and collecting of wild bears and the selling of bear parts, and to put an end to government-sanctioned bear farming, which is nothing but a cruel cover for the continued culling of bears from the wild.

The government of Taiwan must enforce its ban on the sale of parts and products of all bear species, seek out the middlemen, importers, wholesalers, and stockpilers of bear parts, and encourage its citizens to observe the laws of other countries when traveling overseas.

Finally, both governments should actively encourage the use of traditional and synthetic substitutes for bear bile. Clinical research analyzing the medicinal properties of bear gallbladder indicates that it may be genuinely effective for treating a number of ills. But other already accepted natural substances, as well as synthetic ones, could be substituted. A 1994 report by the Association of Chinese Medicine and Philosophy (ACMP) and the Earth Care Society identified fifty-four plant substitutes for bear gallbladder, including rhubarb. ACMP is already promoting herbal medicines instead of those made from animals, especially endangered

ones. In addition, one enterprising Japanese company produces and markets a synthetic version of the active compound found in bear bile.

However, governments in consumer nations have done virtually nothing to promote the use of alternatives to endangered species in traditional medicine. In Taiwan, rather than address the issue at all, the government has provided loopholes to allow the trade in bears; the subject of substitutes has not even been broached. In China the bear industry threatens to increase demand for bear bile in traditional applications, create new markets for nontraditional applications, and further the view that there is no substitute for bear gallbladder.

The Highleys' investigation identified significant conservation and humane problems associated with bear farming and trade in China and Taiwan. The results of their investigation were presented to the CITES delegates, including delegates from both China and Taiwan, at their November 1994 meeting. Other organizations have weighed in with their own findings, implicating other nations—including Japan and South Korea—and Hong Kong as markets for bear parts.

Documentation of the bear trade and the conditions under which bears are kept on farms has already resulted in some

signs of change. In December the government-run China Wildlife Conservation Association signed an agreement to close a third of existing bear farms within the next three years, with the goal of eventually eliminating all of them, and to work actively toward replacing the use of bear parts and products with other substances. If the agreement is upheld, it would only be the first of a series of steps needed to ensure a brighter future for the Earth's beleaguered bears.

#### TO HELP BEARS, WRITE TO:

The Honorable Bruce Babbitt, Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C St., NW, Rm. 6151, Washington, DC 20240. Tell Secretary Babbitt that you want him to certify to President Clinton that Taiwan and China are undermining CITES by not doing enough to stop the domestic and international trade in Appendix I species of bears. If the secretary so certifies, the president may decide to impose trade sanctions on China and Taiwan. Certification and sanctions will encourage China and Taiwan to take action to stop the trade.

Benjamin Lu, Senior Representative, Coordination Council for North American Affairs, 4201 Wisconsin Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20016. The council functions as Taiwan's embassy in the United States. Tell Mr. Lu that you want Taiwan to enforce the ban on the sale of bear parts and products, to seek out the middlemen, importers, wholesalers, and stockpilers of bear parts and products, and to restrict the activities of its citizens overseas.

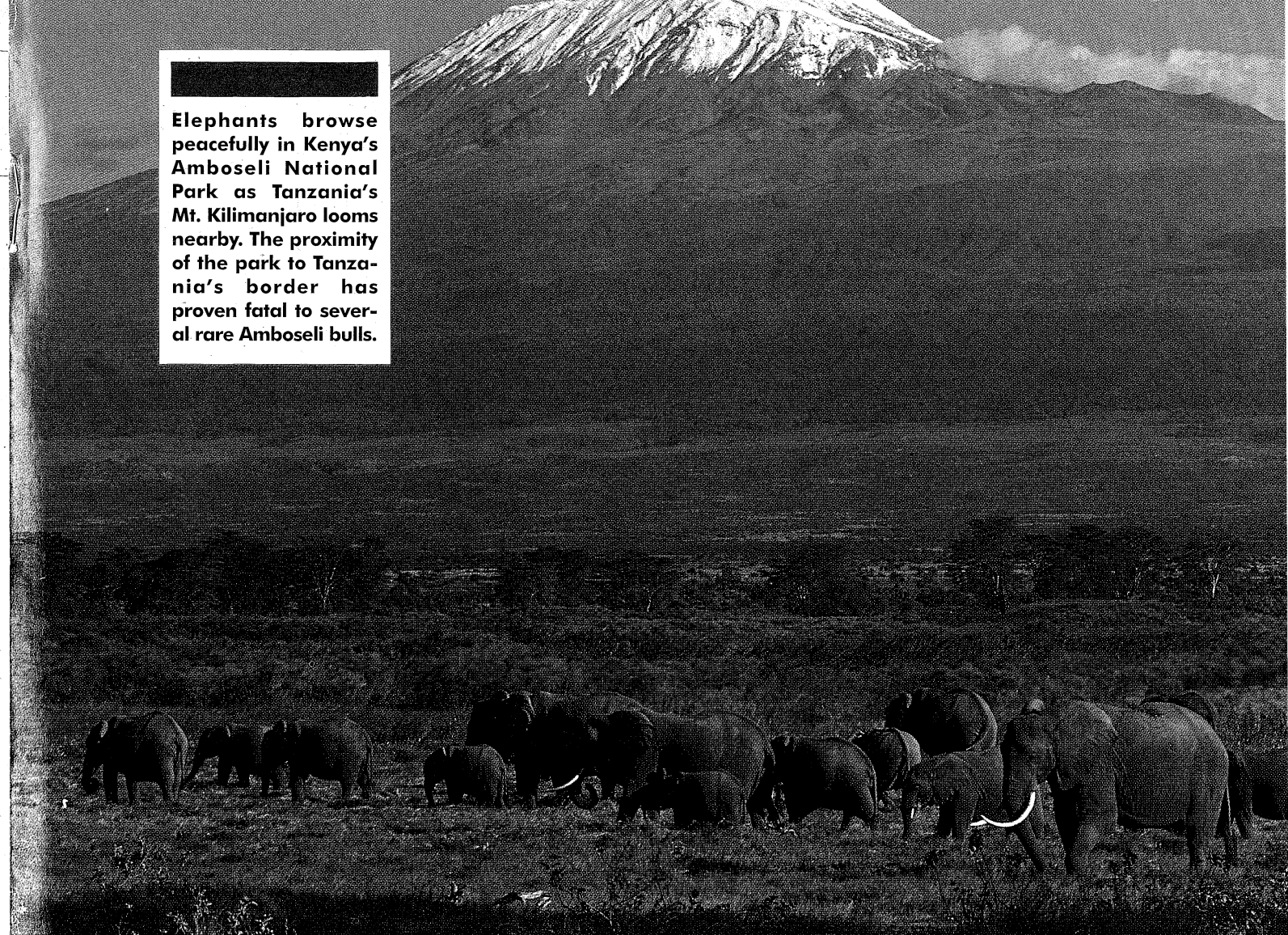
His Excellency Li Daoyu, Ambassador, Embassy of China, 2300 Connecticut Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20008. Tell His Excellency that you want China strictly to enforce a ban on the killing and capture of wild bears and the sale of their parts and to put a stop to bear farming. —Teresa M. Telecky, Ph.D., HSUS director, Wildlife Trade Program.

Keith and Suzie Chang Highley, among the world's foremost experts on wildlife trade, manage the Taiwan field office of Earthtrust, an international nonprofit organization that undertakes innovative projects aimed at wildlife-crisis situations.



Street vendors openly sell endangered-species parts, including tiger penis. Bear gallbladder was also among their wares.

Elephants browse peacefully in Kenya's Amboseli National Park as Tanzania's Mt. Kilimanjaro looms nearby. The proximity of the park to Tanzania's border has proven fatal to several rare Amboseli bulls.



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HSITANZANIA

# ELEPHANTS SLAUGHTERED

In October, November, and December 1994, three large bull elephants were killed by hunters in northern Tanzania, near the border with Kenya. These bulls were shot in a designated hunting area by foreign clients with valid hunting licenses. On paper everything was legal and conformed with CITES (Convention

on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) regulations for the hunting of Appendix I species. Unfortunately, nothing else about these killings made any sense at all, for these were Amboseli bulls, the best-known wild elephants in the world and among the few remaining bulls over thir-

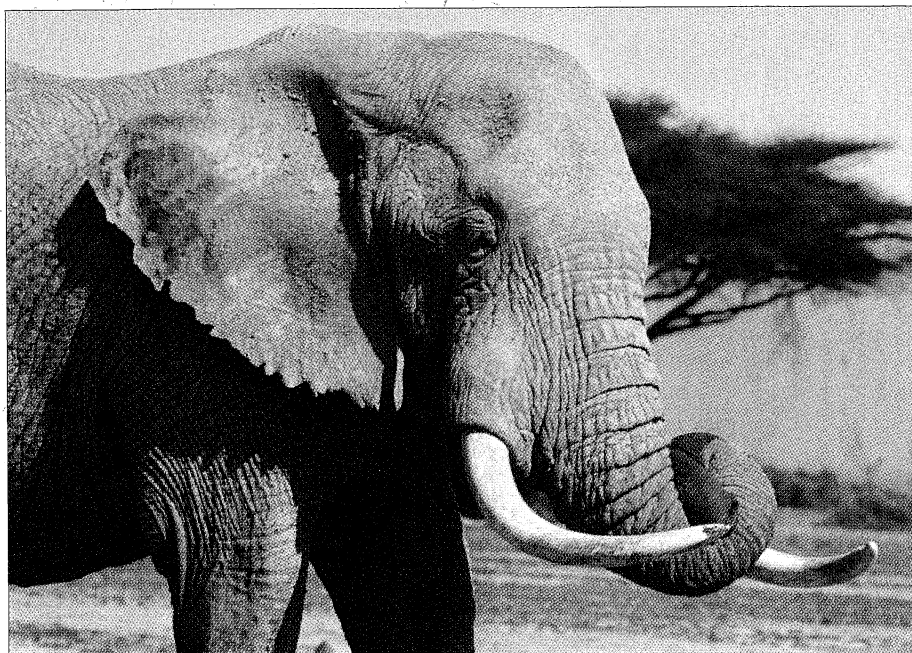
ty-five years of age on the African continent.

Their deaths raise many issues, including cross-border cooperation, the wise use of an international resource, and the definition of ethical hunting standards. But the scientific case for protecting the Amboseli elephants (the older bulls in particular) from human exploitation is one of the most compelling issues of all.

During the 1970s and 1980s, the African continent saw a catastrophic decline in its elephant populations. In almost every country in Africa where elephants ranged, their numbers were drastically reduced by poaching for ivory. In 1979 there were estimated to be 1,300,000 elephants throughout the continent; by 1989 there were about 600,000. In Kenya alone, the elephant population plummeted from 167,000 in 1973 to about 25,000 today, a decrease of 85 percent.

Fortunately, the world rallied around the elephant, and in 1989 a ban on international trade in ivory was introduced





**Andrew, an Amboseli bull, is missing and presumed killed by hunters. He was completely habituated to the presence of vehicles.**

through CITES. A combination of the ban and public-awareness campaigns turned the situation around for most of Africa's elephants. The price of ivory went down and, with the help of international funding organizations, wildlife departments were able to put more effort into fighting poachers. The result was a sharp decline in the rate of poaching.

Throughout this period, a few populations of African elephants were able to live in relative peace. One of these was in Amboseli National Park in southern Kenya. The Amboseli elephants have neither been heavily poached nor have they had their numbers culled as part of a park management program. Three reasons account for this notable exception. First, the land surrounding the national park belongs to the Masai people, who have lived in harmony with the wildlife and have traditionally been intolerant of other people coming onto their land to hunt. Second, the national park covers only 150 square miles, and the presence of large numbers of tourists makes it difficult for gangs of poachers to operate without being detected. And third, the year-round monitoring of the elephants by researchers is a deterrent to poachers.

In the absence of poaching and culling, the number of Amboseli elephants has

spanning the whole age range, from newborn calves to matriarchs in their sixties and, more unusual, many large adult bulls in their forties and fifties. In most of Africa, there are few males more than twenty-five years old because the males are killed first, for their larger tusks. When poachers cannot find males, they turn to adult females and finally to teenagers and calves, disrupting and sometimes destroying the social fabric of elephant life. The Amboseli population, with its natural age structure and intact social organization, has become increasingly important as a source of information on elephant social and reproductive patterns. It is, in fact, being used as a model for assessing the status of other populations in Africa.

The Amboseli Elephant Research Project was started in September 1972 and has continued without interruption to this day. In 1972 there were approximately 700 elephants in the population—a small enough number for researchers to get to know all the animals individually. The elephants were also, at the outset of the project, remarkably tolerant of the presence of vehicles, making for excellent observation conditions.

The 860 elephants of today's Amboseli population have all been named or numbered, and each can be recognized indi-



**The skull and bones are all that remain of RBG, a magnificent bull killed in October 1994. He was exceptionally tolerant of close observation by researchers, even when in the musth phase of his sexual cycle.**

vidually by ear markings and ear-vein patterns. There are photographic-recognition cards (a wildlife-identification tool) of every adult and most of the calves more than seven years old. (The younger calves can be recognized in the context of their

families.) This degree of recognition makes the Amboseli elephants the best-known free-ranging population in Africa.

The population is monitored six days a week by three research assistants. They collect data on elephant distribution, habi-

tat use, movements, group size, and associations. Most importantly, they maintain long-term records on the elephants' births, deaths, reproductive status, and activity. Individual reproductive histories of males and females have been followed for



**HSIEUROPE**

## NEW ERA FOR THE INTERGROUP

Johanna "Hanja" Maij-Weggen is the new president of the European Parliament (EP)'s Intergroup on the Welfare and Conservation of Animals, formerly the Intergroup on Animal Welfare.<sup>1</sup> She succeeds Anita Pollack (see the Winter 1995 *HSUS News*).

The Intergroup is a cross-party grouping of members of the EP (MEPs) from various countries, parties, and committee assignments who are interested in animal welfare.

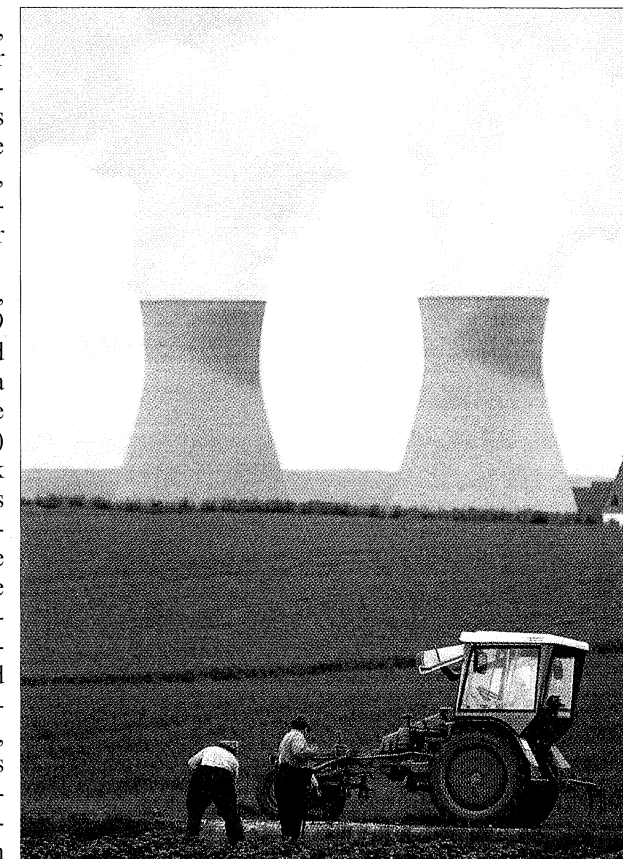
During Mrs. Maij-Weggen's tenure, the Intergroup is addressing some key issues, not the least of which is nuclear-pollution cleanup. The governments of France and Germany are already helping Russia, Kazakhstan, and Ukraine with their nuclear-pollution problems. Mrs. Maij-Weggen, who sits on the EP's Development and Cooperation Committee, says this is "absolutely an item on our agenda. Something must be done because nuclear pollution is not only a danger for local areas but, as we have learned from Chernobyl, it can be also for all of Europe—people, environment, animals, everyone." Communist-dominated countries, she adds, have never taken much care of the environment or of animals. "Now they realize there are a lot of problems. They see that the practices of western European countries are different and much more costly. They are asking for help, and [western] Europe is helping."

A citizen of the Netherlands, Mrs. Maij-Weggen describes herself as a practical person. She has been interested in animal protection since she was a child

—an interest, she says, that is nurtured by her culture. In the Netherlands, cruelty to animals is "criticized in the schools, in the villages, and even in the newspapers. You have to be fair to animals."

Mrs. Maij-Weggen, honored with the 1989 Schuman Medal (named for Robert Schuman, a founding father of the European Union—or EU) for her outstanding work in the EP, has set a series of wide-ranging priorities for her term with the Intergroup. They include ensuring that animal-protection issues are addressed by the World Trade Organization, protecting seals and whales, ensuring that countries involved in EU infrastructure projects consider animal-protection and habitat needs, and reforming farm-animal-transport conditions.

She calls the farm-animal-transport issue "a stupid situation," because animals are shipped hundreds or thousands of miles from countries in the north, like the Netherlands, to be slaughtered in countries in the south, like Spain and Italy. "That is cruel," she says. "An animal that has been raised for consumption . . . should be slaughtered in the place where it is raised." The problem, she notes, is that a policy legislating



**Farmers labor in the shadow of a German nuclear power plant. The Intergroup hopes to address nuclear-pollution problems in eastern Europe.**

slaughter closer to the originating farms may increase unemployment in southern countries if fewer animals are sent to slaughterhouses there.

Mrs. Maij-Weggen believes that northern European public opinion is strongly behind plans of the EP and the European Commission—which drafts EU legislation—to impose a maximum

(continued on page 26)



more than twenty-two years. The exact ages of many of these animals are known because their births were recorded during the study. Researchers know the ages of sexual maturity and first parturition and rates of calf survivorship for a large sam-

ple of known-aged females. They are just beginning to get the same kind of information for males, who begin to reproduce at a later age than do females.

Males reach sexual maturity at twelve to thirteen years of age and soon after

leave their natal families. As independent bulls they have their own social system, living in fluid groupings with other bulls and sometimes joining cow-calf groups. They have very little chance of mating with females until they are twenty-five



**"Hanja" Maij-Weggen began her career at the Netherlands Higher Vocational School for Public Health.**

eight-hour journey time and establish requirements for feeding, watering, and providing humane-transport conditions for farm animals. But in countries like Spain, Italy, and Greece, public opinion needs to be sensitized to the conditions animals endure. "A lot of people," she says, "do not even know that the meat that they cut on their table is raised and transported in such a cruel way."

The Intergroup has been airing films about farm-animal-transport conditions on television in these countries and in France (a major consumer of milk-fed veal and lamb). Mrs. Maij-Weggen says that public opinion is "already changing in a positive direction," since the airing of the films in France. There is also a major French newspaper ad campaign sponsored by the Eurogroup for Animal Welfare (the Intergroup's secretariat) and French animal-protection groups to increase pressure on the French government, which chairs the EU from January through June. The goal is to get the French government to support farm-animal-journey limits.

Mrs. Maij-Weggen also has zoo reform on her priority list. "Zoos in west-

ern Europe are not too bad, and many are rather good, because they are trying to bring animals into habitats as natural as possible," she contends. "But we know that zoos in central and eastern Europe are in very bad condition, especially because many governments refuse to subsidize these zoos." She wants to create a consultation process, wherein western European zoo managers offer their expertise to their central and eastern European counterparts on how to manage zoos "in a more commercial way, but also in a more animal-friendly way."

Another of Mrs. Maij-Weggen's concerns is the spread of organized crime into the endangered-species trade. She believes enforcement of current regulations is essential. "We already have rather good legislation with CITES [the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora], and European legislation goes even further than CITES," she says. "But enforcement requires a lot of people and money. Criminal-trade organizations are very clever in finding ways to bring their products and animals to people who want to have them."

Mrs. Maij-Weggen was a leader in the campaign to ban baby-fur-seal-skin imports into Europe, making the EP more well known and giving her substantial recognition as an animal-protection advocate, not only in the Netherlands but also throughout the EU. It was her parliamentary resolution that started the fight to ban the import of baby-fur-seal skins. Countless letters calling for a ban were sent by citizens of Europe and the United States to MEPs, the European Commission, and the European Council of Ministers.<sup>2</sup> This intensified pressure prompted landmark legislation in 1984. It was a good example of her tactic of using public opinion to strengthen a position.

An earlier U.S. import ban on baby-fur-seal skins also helped strengthen Eu-

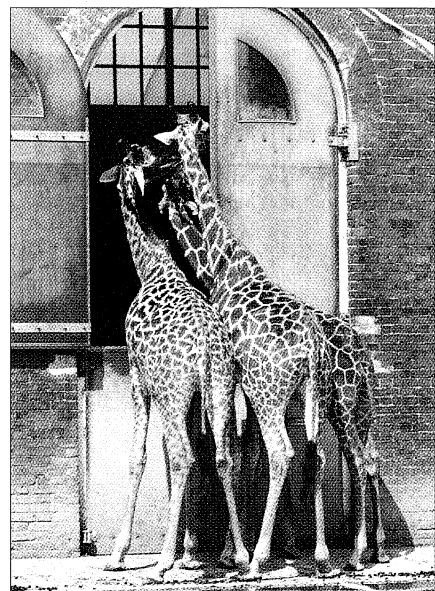
ropean efforts. She cites a letter she received from Sen. Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts that pointed out how important it was for the EU to enact a similar ban, because the U.S. ban had shifted the Canadian skin trade to Europe.

U.S. animal-protection groups, particularly HSI, Mrs. Maij-Weggen says, "are always very helpful to the Intergroup and its lobbying activities. I really hope that the cooperation between organizations in Europe and in the U.S. will . . . grow."

How would she like to be remembered at the end of her tenure as Intergroup president? She will be content if she has done "something for the animals."—Betsy Dribben, Esq., director, European Office, HSI

<sup>1</sup>The EP is elected by citizens of the EU. The EU comprises fifteen member nations.

<sup>2</sup>The European Council of Ministers represents the governments of the fifteen member states of the EU.



**London zoo inmates: "Zoos in central and eastern Europe are in very bad condition" compared to those in western Europe, according to Mrs. Maij-Weggen.**

years old, despite reaching sexual maturity by the age of thirteen. Females reject the young males; they even reject bulls well into their thirties. Our studies have shown that females prefer to mate with the older males in the population, those in their forties and fifties, and particularly those who are in *musth*, a sexually active period that lasts three to four months.

Once a year each bull over approximately thirty years of age enters *musth*. For the remainder of the year, the males live separately from the females and calves in a "bull area," a part of the herd's range, where they will spend most of their time in the company of other bulls or alone. When a bull comes into *musth*, he leaves the bull area and goes in search of receptive females. Spending much of his time on the move, crisscrossing the population's range, he will go from family to family, testing the females to see if there is one in estrus. If he finds one, he will mate with her and guard her from the advances of other males for one or two days. *Musth* bulls show significantly higher rates of mating and guarding than non-*musth* bulls, and they are presumed to father most of the calves.

In Amboseli during 1994 there were twenty-nine bulls over thirty-five years of age: fourteen of these were more than forty; two were more than fifty. All were sexually active and experiencing regular *musth* cycles. These were Amboseli's prime breeding bulls. In October 1994 the Amboseli Research Project received a report that a large bull had been shot by hunters just across the border in Tanzania, in the Longido Game-Controlled Area. An inspection of the carcass revealed that he was a forty-seven-year-old bull, in the prime of life. He was provisionally identified as "RBG," a magnificent and well-known Amboseli bull who was first photographed in 1976. Researchers had been tracking his social relationships and reproductive history for eighteen years. He was a favorite of the Amboseli researchers because he was exceptionally tolerant of close observation. He could have lived another eighteen years, fathering calves and providing a wealth of information about elephant behavior.

Further investigations revealed that at least two more bulls—possibly as many as six—had been killed by hunters.<sup>2</sup> Three



**Masai tribesmen herd cattle. The Masai in the Amboseli area have been living in harmony with the wildlife in the region for the last four hundred to five hundred years through mutual respect—and fear.**

had been killed under a valid license, three others under suspicious conditions. All killed were said to have big tusks and thus all are thought to have been among the sixteen large Amboseli bulls. Missing are "Andrew," a big Western bull completely habituated to vehicles, and "Sleepy," at nearly fifty, one of the most dominant males in Amboseli. There is no other resident population of elephants in that area of Tanzania. The Amboseli ecosystem happens to extend across the border into Tanzania to the south and southwest, and these bulls were moving in their normal range. There had been an informal agreement between the two countries that there would be no hunting of the elephants in the area near the Kenya-Tanzania border. Tanzania changed the policy without notifying Kenya. The shooting of these bulls was an unforgivable betrayal of trust built between elephants and the people of Amboseli since the 1930s.

We have just lost 19 percent—or as much as 38 percent—of our prime breeding bulls in a period of less than three months. This is an unsustainable off-take, and the loss has greatly reduced the potential for genetic variability in a relatively small population. To date the Tanzanian authorities have not stopped the hunting of elephants in Longido despite a request to do so from the Kenyan authorities. The

hunting season lasts until the end of March; several more bulls could be killed.

RBG was nearing fifty; the research teams were very interested to see how much longer he would continue to be sexually active. One of the questions in elephant biology that remain unanswered is, do bulls "retire" at some stage, and if so, what role if any do they play in ranging patterns during their old age? If most of Amboseli's older bulls are killed by hunters while they are still in their prime, we will have lost the opportunity to answer that question and many others.

The relatively intact and intensively studied Amboseli elephant population is unique in Africa, a precious world heritage whose conservation should be the concern of everyone. Tragically, some of Amboseli's elephants, which can be considered jointly owned by both Kenya and Tanzania, are being sold off for the paltry sum of \$4,000 for each hunting fee. This is a terrible waste, and if it continues it will be yet another disgrace in the history of man's unwise exploitation of nature. —Cynthia Moss, director, Amboseli Elephant Research Project

<sup>1</sup>Animals on CITES's Appendix I are threatened with extinction and are banned from commercial trade.

<sup>2</sup>The Masai in the Amboseli area, who have benefited substantially recently from tourism that is based mainly on elephant watching, reported the hunting of the bulls to park authorities and researchers.





# WILDLIFE GUARDIANS

**W**ith a population of thirty million people and an area of 3.8 million square miles, Canada is a vast wilderness with a rich and diverse assortment of beautiful species that thrive within their natural habitats.

But these wild animals and birds are under constant threat from those who participate in the recreational killing of wildlife. Each year in Canada, millions of wild animals and birds are wounded, maimed, and killed by hunters using everything from crossbows to high-powered rifles. A year-long HSI (Canada) investigation has revealed that the government agencies entrusted to protect wildlife are either unable or unwilling to bring violators of hunting laws to justice.

The vast majority of Canadian citizens, on the other hand, prefer to share their lands peaceably with wildlife, rather than hunt it. HSI (Canada) is launching a campaign called Wildlife Guardians to build on the strengths of Canadians' anti-hunting sentiments. Through community meetings and publicly shared information, HSI (Canada) and other wildlife-protection organizations will teach Canadians about their legal rights under existing federal and provincial laws to prevent hunters from trespassing and illegally killing wildlife on private property and on public lands. This long-term, multifaceted campaign will also teach children and adults alike about the natural history of wildlife species and their place in the delicate and varied ecosystems across Canada. For Canadians weary of ineffective government agencies squandering their tax dollars and for farmers and cottage owners who feel as though they are being held captive in their own homes during hunting season, Wildlife Guardians represents a new opportunity to educate and inform.

There is ample evidence that Canadi-

ans care about wildlife, even if their government does not. Repeated federal surveys have shown that eight out of ten Canadians consistently support the protection—not the killing—of wildlife. A survey carried out in 1991 found that their nonlethal activities, which pumped an estimated \$2.4 billion into the Canadian economy, included camping, hiking, canoeing, observing wildlife in its natural surroundings, and preserving species and their habitats.

Results of a 1986 study indicate that hunting is losing favor with younger Canadians. The study found that most of the decrease in permits for hunting migratory waterfowl had been among people thirty-five years old or younger. A government study published in 1993 found that the sale of migratory-game-bird hunting permits had declined from 520,530 in 1977 to 295,777 in 1991.

While we believe some individual conservation officers are evenhanded, we have come to the conclusion that the policies of government game agencies are inadequate and these agencies focus too much on the rights of hunters. Indeed it is difficult to determine whether wildlife is threatened more by sport hunters or by civil servants. For example, HSI (Canada) has learned that since 1992 federal wildlife officials have signed and distributed more than twenty-five thousand blank permits each year to outfitters and guides for use in exporting the trophies and parts of black bears from Canada. This practice persists despite abundant evidence that it is contributing to the illegal trade in bear parts for Asian medicines (see page 18).

Directly linked to a failure on the part of wildlife officials to control overhunting is the decline in populations of caribou and moose in the Yukon Territory. The Yukon government continues to slaughter wolves from aircraft (an illegal practice

under its own laws) in an effort to increase populations of wildlife that attract big-game hunters from the United States and Europe.

In other research HSI (Canada) found that in the province of Ontario, an area covering 420,000 square miles, there are only two hundred conservation officers. Most work normal business hours, even

though most hunting activities take place on weekends and holidays. For conservation officers throughout Canada who aggressively pursue hunting-law offenders, the rewards are small: court fines for convicted offenders are often very low when compared to the costs of investigating and prosecuting such violators. Typical offenses include hunting on land without

permission, carrying loaded firearms on road vehicles or aircraft, hunting wildlife at night and from motorized vehicles or aircraft, hunting certain species with prohibited weapons, and hunting in certain federal and provincial parks.

The decision to engage in sport hunting is a personal one. Whether hunting should be supported by the tax dollars of

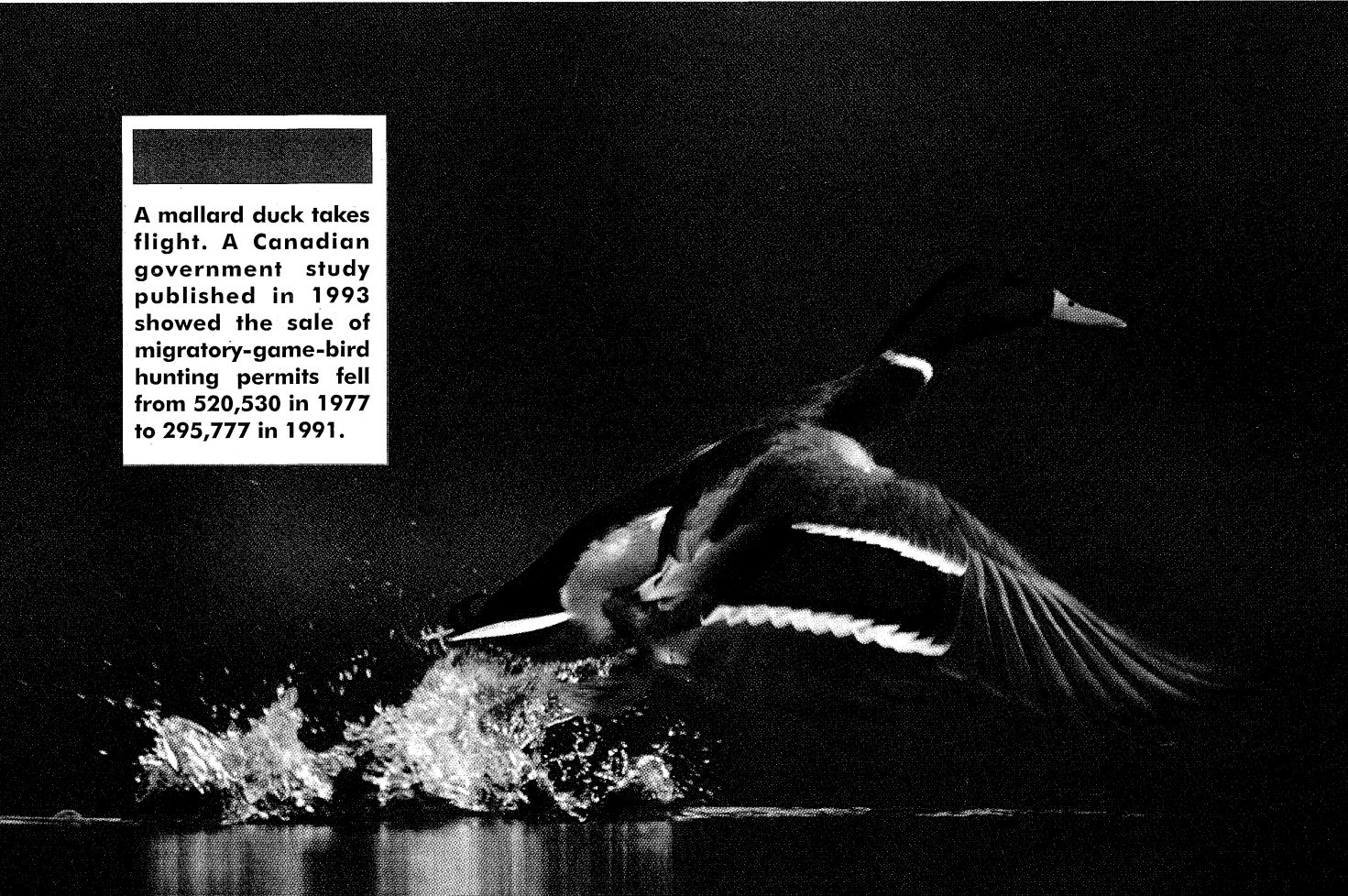
the eight-out-of-ten Canadians who hold views contrary to those of hunters is a different matter entirely. The cost of a typical deer-hunting license is \$25. If the actual cost of monitoring and policing sport hunters is,

**A moose enjoys a meal consisting of aquatic vegetation. There is ample evidence that Canadians care about wildlife and want to protect it, even if the government does not.**





A mallard duck takes flight. A Canadian government study published in 1993 showed the sale of migratory-game-bird hunting permits fell from 520,530 in 1977 to 295,777 in 1991.



as reported, closer to \$2,500 per license, why should nonhunters be asked to subsidize the sport-hunting pursuits of a relative minority?

Canada lacks a federal endangered species act. In response to public pressure brought to bear by HSI (Canada) and other concerned individuals and organizations, the Canadian government has finally agreed to hold a series of public hearings to address this serious lapse. However, HSI (Canada) has learned from confidential informants that senior government civil servants are already working behind the scenes to sabotage the effort to pass such an act. One senior federal official has openly expressed his disaffection for a Canadian endangered species act.

Hunting creates environmental problems: lead shot used to kill waterfowl, upland game birds, and small animals is a case in point. Consumption of spent shot by certain migratory birds causes lead poisoning and death. A typical shotgun shell contains several hundred small lead pellets that spray when fired. Research by Ken Langelier, D.V.M., estimated that more than 825 tons of lead are used each year in Canada to kill approximately 3.5 million ducks and geese alone. Replacing lead shot with steel shot is only now grad-

ually gaining acceptance in Canada, notably in the provinces of British Columbia and Ontario. (In the United States, lead shot was banned in 1991 over the vocal opposition of many pro-hunting lobby groups.)

One of the greatest single underlying causes of the mismanagement of wildlife is that government agencies openly support the sustainable use of wildlife, a destructive policy relying on questionable ethics, that has proven time after time to make no practical, scientific, or economic sense.

When government agencies place a price on the head of every living animal, wildlife is reduced to a commodity to be bought, sold, and traded in the marketplace. Such a policy also advances the dangerous and damaging notion that the only wildlife worth protecting is the wildlife that "pays its own way."

While HSI (Canada)

cannot argue that the sport hunting of wildlife is illegal, we intend to ensure that the public call for greater wildlife protection is not drowned out by the sound of gunfire. By asking children and adults to become Wildlife Guardians, we are enlisting the support and goodwill of Canadians in every community to protect wildlife from harm.—Michael O'Sullivan, director, HSI (Canada)



Canadian officials have distributed thousands of permits to outfitters for export of black bear parts.



Each time you use The Humane Society of the United States VISA® Card, you help protect all animals, domestic and wild. A portion of every purchase you make will be donated to The Humane Society of the United States.\* Plus, for a limited time, transfer balances from your higher-rate cards to your HSUS VISA Card at a 9.9% fixed APR.\*\* Also, there's no annual membership fee for the

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\*Average use of your VISA card in the first year should generate \$25 to \$40 for The HSUS, depending on personal spending and financial patterns.

\*\*After September 30, 1995, any loan transactions or balances will revert to the then-applicable APR. The HSUS VISA Classic Card features a current variable rate of 16.95%, and the HSUS VISA Gold Card features a current variable rate of 14.95% for purchases and cash advances (loans). These variable rates are good through June 30, 1995.

The standard 1% transaction fee for cash advances and Line of Credit checks and the standard \$1.25 fixed transaction fee for cash advances obtained at an electronic facility or Automatic Teller Machine will be waived throughout the term of the 9.9% APR offer. Annual membership fee, after the first six months, for the HSUS VISA Classic Card is \$20; the HSUS VISA Gold Card, \$36.



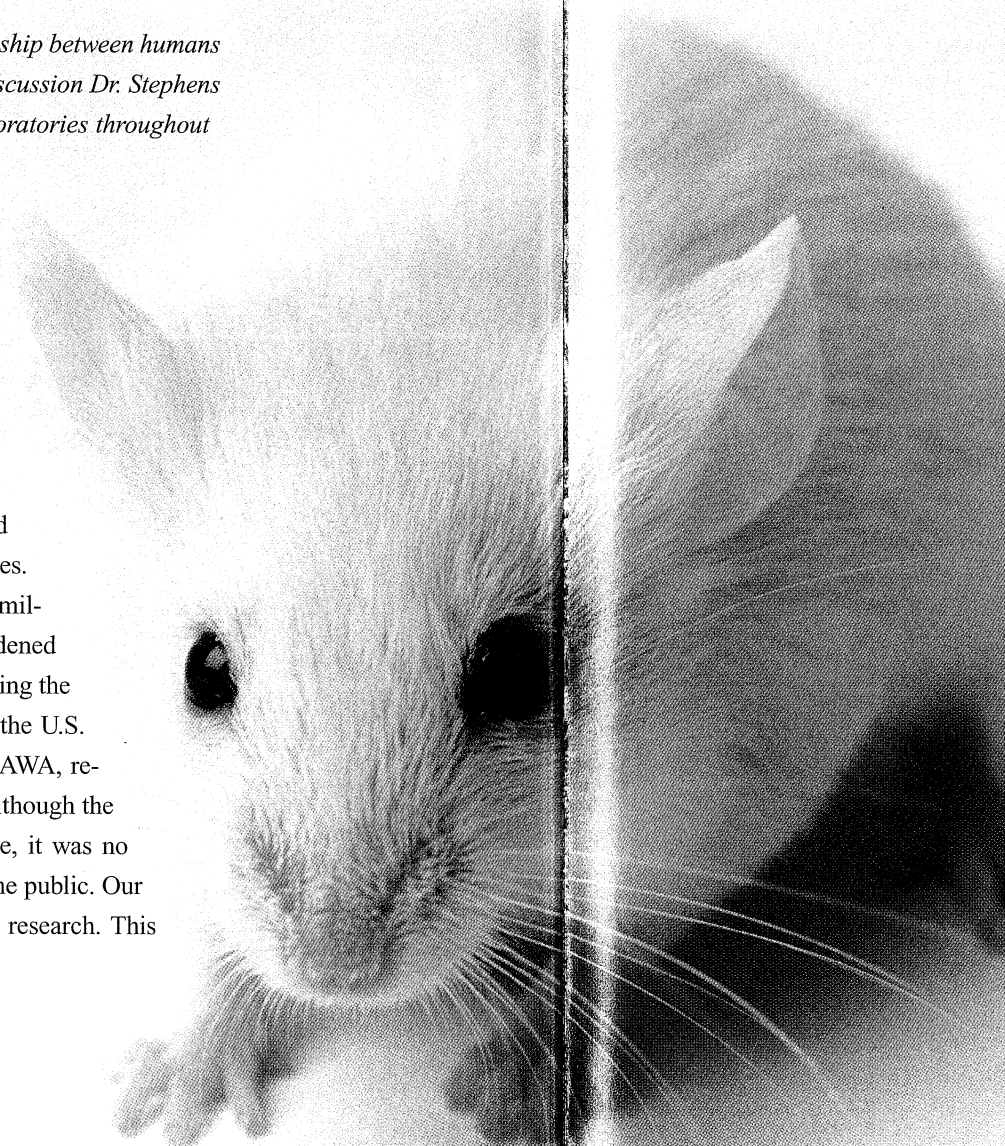
# SMALLEST AMONG US

*On the following pages Martin Stephens, Ph.D., examines the age-old relationship between humans and the tiny, fleet-footed creatures known as mice and rats. Throughout his discussion Dr. Stephens cites the first-hand experience of a technician who has worked in animal laboratories throughout the United States.*

**M**OST PEOPLE ARE HAPPY TO GREET A DOG OR a cat but few are pleased to see a rat or mouse. In The HSUS's view, different species of animals are not good or bad; they are all good at doing what they've evolved to do, whether they are rodents, woodchucks, or other "problem species," or dogs, cats, songbirds, or other favored species. Our position is that all animals deserve humane treatment and this surely applies to those creatures who are sacrificed in the nation's laboratories.

Cultural bias against rodents works against the interests of the nearly 20 million rats and mice used annually in our laboratories. In 1970 Congress broadened the scope of the Animal Welfare Act (AWA)—the nation's primary law regulating the treatment of animals in laboratories—to include all mammals and birds. Yet the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the agency charged with enforcing the AWA, responded by specifically excluding rats and mice from coverage by the law. Although the agency claimed it didn't have the resources to fulfill its broadened mandate, it was no doubt aware that its decision would not generate a firestorm of protest from the public. Our cultural bias is revealed, as well, in much of the literature defending animal research. This

**CULTURAL BIAS  
WORKS AGAINST  
THE MILLIONS OF  
RODENTS USED IN  
LABORATORIES  
BY MARTIN L.  
STEPHENS, PH.D.**



literature attempts to mollify a public increasingly critical of animal research by reporting that 90 percent of all vertebrate animals used in laboratories are rodents.

Not all rodents are viewed negatively. Hamsters, gerbils, and guinea pigs are often considered cute. Even some mice and rats, such as Walt Disney's Mickey Mouse, have successfully created a cozy spot for themselves in our collective consciousness. Mice and rats, along with gerbils, hamsters, and guinea pigs, are sometimes our pets. By purchasing them, we acknowledge their appeal.

Our treatment of mice and rats as pets contrasts with our treatment of them as pests and potential disease carriers. At the hardware store we can choose from a variety of poisons, glue traps, and other devices designed with human convenience, not humaneness, in mind. A recent cruelty case highlighted our schizophrenic view of mice and rats as, on the one hand, animals worthy of humane concern and, on the other hand, vermin to be exterminated. A New Jersey man set a live trap in his yard, caught a rat, and called animal control to remove the animal. Apparently believing the rat was about to escape from the trap, he bludgeoned it to death with a baseball bat.

The man was charged with cruelty by the local authorities, but this was protested publicly and the charges were later dropped.

Though wild mice and rats can be a hazard to human health, the risk of them infecting or otherwise injuring human beings is minimal. People are more likely to contract food poisoning at a restaurant than to become ill through contact with rodents. Nevertheless, few of us want wild mice or rats



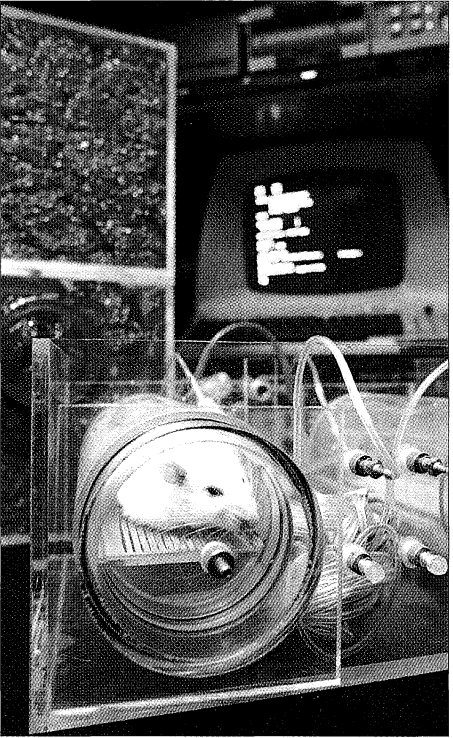
in our homes, if for no other reason than their mischief in the food pantry. Although humane methods of exclusion and relocation exist, there are no such options for the caged research animals, whose worth in human eyes is subconsciously devalued by the innocent actions of their wild cousins.

MISUNDERSTOOD “TOOLS”

Mice and rats are widely used in research for many reasons, including their small size and ease of handling, short life span, large litter size, and relatively low cost of housing. As a result, mice have become the workhorses in the burgeoning field of genetic engineering. The growth in genetic engineering research is probably the foremost reason for the apparent increase in the use of mice and rats.

Ironically, the popularity of mice and rats as research subjects tends to reinforce their image as mere laboratory tools. Many laboratories have so many mice and rats that the handlers are not likely to get to know the animals individually. To most human observers, mice and rats are not behaviorally or vocally expressive. This perceived lack of “personality” works against the interests of the animals most dramatically when they are in pain. Unfortunately, untrained observers may incorrectly conclude that the animals are simply resting or

are insensitive to pain. It is critical for laboratory personnel to be familiar with the natural history of mice, rats, and other animals commonly used in research. Such knowledge can help them in assessing not only when animals are in pain, but also when they are sick,



LITANY OF HORRORS

- Adding insult to injury, laboratory mice and rats suffer cruelty and negligence unrelated to the inevitable trauma of the experiments themselves. These are some of the atrocities witnessed by one laboratory worker:
- Paralyzed mice were left to linger until they died, days after the end of the experiment.
  - Workers carelessly administered toxic substances into the lungs instead of the stomach. The animals were left gasping in their cages until they died.
  - In an attempt at euthanasia, dozens of animals were piled into a plastic garbage bag that was filled with gas. Not all of the animals were dead before they were dissected; frequently their hearts were still beating when they were cut open.
  - Struggling, hairless mice were taped to boards and placed in front of a heat lamp to burn. Instead of burning, one group of mice died of heat exhaustion. The experiment had to be repeated. (The board was tossed into the trash, the bodies still taped to it.)

bored, or frustrated. Most species of mice and rats are nocturnal and rely heavily on their sense of smell in foraging and in interacting with other members of their own species. They inquisitively explore their environment in search of food. They tend to burrow, seeking refuge and nesting places underground or in nooks and crannies. Rats and mice have surprised psychologists with the extent and subtlety of their responses to human interactions. Rats prefer to spend more time near their caretaker, for example, than near a stranger. Some progressive scientists, veterinarians, and animal caretakers are beginning to take advantage of the information about the behavior and physiological responsiveness of mice and rats to their laboratory environment. They are designing housing and handling procedures to ensure that the animals live in less stressful, more enriched environments. The result is better not only for the animals, but also for the scientists, given that stress can confound the effects of experimental treatments.

LABORATORY LIFE

Unfortunately, the typical laboratory environment for rodents more often reflects

the demands of research than the natural history of the animals. Few research facilities have provided their laboratory mice and rats with appropriate environmental enrichment, such as mazes and exercise and hiding areas. Consequently, the day-to-day existence of most mice and rats in laboratories is one of privation. *Often, when the paper pan liners under the cages were changed, the mice would reach through the wire floors of their cages and pull the paper into their cages to make nests. Lab workers who discovered the nests would angrily pull them out and throw them away.*—Technician’s report

Housing conditions are only a part of the harsh laboratory experience of mice and rats. While some mice and rats are involved in procedures that are relatively benign (for example, certain learning studies using food as a reward), many of them are put through practices that most people would consider harsh, if not brutal. One or more of their toes may be amputated, purely for identification purposes. A narrow capillary tube may be inserted behind one of their eyes in a common procedure for obtaining blood. Rigid tubing may be passed through their noses or mouths into their stomachs in a common procedure for administering experimental drugs or other chemicals. In none of these procedures are the animals given any sort of pain relief.

Some particularly hapless mice and rats are subjected to more than one harmful procedure. In a recent study of the role of nutritional supplements after severe body injury, researchers broke both hind legs of thirty-six rats, starved them for two days, fed them supplements, and then killed them a few days later. Although the animals were anesthetized when injured, the report makes no mention of post-trauma pain relief.

Mice and rats are the species of choice in many toxicity tests, in which the animals are dosed with potentially harmful chemicals in an attempt to obtain some idea of the substances’ potency in causing cancer, birth defects, or other damage to people. In one of the lesser-known tests, rodents are forced to inhale the fumes of burning materials in an attempt to assess the toxicity of smoke from different substances (for example, drapery fabric).

Mice and rats are subjected to seemingly bizarre tests in an effort to discover therapeutic drugs for depression and other mental afflictions. In the Porsolt Behavioral Despair Test, also called the Forced Swimming Test, mice or rats are given experimental drugs, then placed in a contain-



er of water until they no longer swim to stay afloat. The amount of time it takes for the animal to give up is said to be a measure of the antidepressant and antianxiety effects of the drugs. In the Muricide Test, rats are dosed with experimental drugs and then given an opportunity to kill mice. This is said to shed light on the antidepressant action of the drugs. *I was always sad to see shipments of young rats arrive at the lab. Healthy and playful, they wrestled like puppies and I hated to think that in a matter of days they would be lying in their cages, convulsing after being force-fed perfume or cologne or a new shampoo.*—Technician’s report

Would the public as easily condone dogs or cats or monkeys being treated this way? The answer clearly is no. Unfortunately, the public’s indifference (if not outright aversion) to mice and rats helps create a permissive climate in the rodent laboratory. *When I refused an order to kill forty mice by breaking their necks and suggested that a more humane method be used, the lab supervisor ridiculed me, commenting, “They’re only rodents.”*—Technician’s report

**“I WANT TO BE YOUR NEIGHBOR,” THE HOUSE MOUSE SEEMS TO SAY TO HIS OFTEN-RELUCTANT HUMAN CO-HABITANTS. OPPOSITE: A RAT IS PART OF A U.S.-GOVERNMENT-AGENCY AIR-QUALITY TEST.**

**HSUS EFFORTS**

In 1989 The HSUS and the Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF) filed a petition with the USDA to have that government agency draw up AWA regulations for the treatment of mice and rats in laboratories. The USDA denied the petition. In 1990 The HSUS, ALDF, and two individuals filed suit against the USDA. The effort paid off: in 1991 the federal district court in Washington, D.C., ruled that the USDA was violating the AWA by excluding rats and mice from its regulations. However, an appeals court reversed that decision in 1994, ruling that none of the four plaintiffs, including The HSUS, had legal standing to bring suit. We plan to file an amended complaint in a lower court.

*In every laboratory, I found it was the rats and mice who received the least consideration. Not only was their suffering more often ignored or ridiculed by laboratory staff, but they were also more often the vic-*

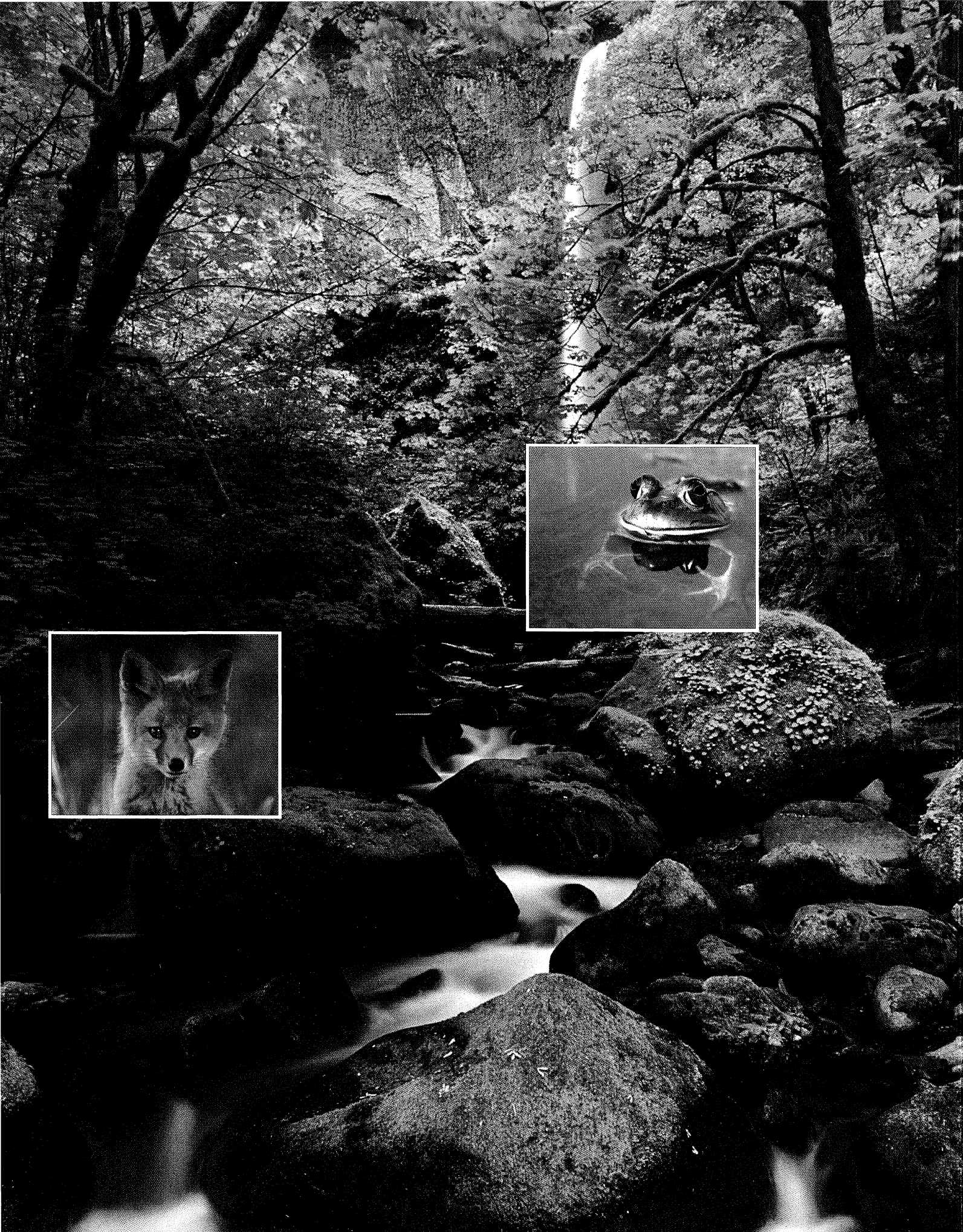
*tims of spontaneous sadism. . . . If [mice and rats] had at least the protection of the Animal Welfare Act, their suffering would have been greatly reduced.*—Technician’s report

A new federal bill, the Animal Experimentation Right to Know Act (AERKA), would compel the USDA to provide the public annually with information on the numbers, sources, uses, and severity of uses of mice, rats, and other animals in laboratories. Although the bill would not compel the USDA to regulate the treatment of rats and mice, it would at least eliminate some of the secrecy surrounding their use.

It will be a number of years before animals—mice and rats included—are no longer used in laboratory research. In the meantime AERKA and a revised AWA must provide them with humane treatment and dignity.

*Martin L. Stephens, Ph.D., is HSUS vice president, Laboratory Animals.*





PHOTOS PAGE 36—SHAW/TOM STACK & ASSOC.; INSET LEFT: WOLFE/TONY STONE IMAGES; INSET RIGHT: VYTONY STONE IMAGES; PAGE 37—LEFT: McDONALD/TOM STACK & ASSOC.; RIGHT: COMSTOCK

# SHELTERS THE HSUS WITHOUT WILDLIFE WALLS LAND TRUST

**W**E ALL KNOW OF once-magnificent fields and forests where the symphonic communing of robins, finches, jays, bluebirds, and mourning doves is no longer heard and where the thrill of seeing darting chipmunks, wary rabbits, less cautious raccoons, and elegant red foxes no longer exists. The nurturing powers of undeveloped lands are being reduced on a massive scale worldwide by ceaseless demands for multilane highways, newer and larger airports, town-sized shopping centers, and condominium communities that overwhelm suburban landscapes.



## WILDLIFE LOST

**E**ven some ponds and nurturing wetlands, where blue herons, mallard ducks, diving kingfishers, busy woodpeckers, and croaking frogs were once common, have been drained, "reclaimed" by developers, and replaced by granite, brick, steel, and glass-encased residences, factories, and office towers that stand rigidly astride the asphalt plains of adjacent parking lots and arterial highways.

As this population-driven march toward

ever-expanding development continues, open spaces that we have enjoyed and appreciated during our relatively brief lifetimes will continue to disappear. With human populations rapidly expanding and land-use-related technologies becoming ever more efficient, these open spaces will disappear even faster than in the past.

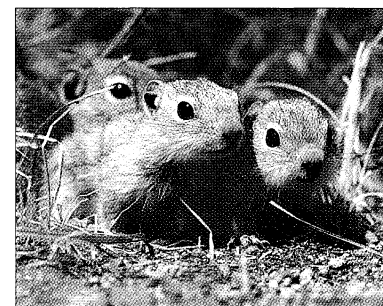
Wild animals are in greater peril today than at any other time in history. Their chief threats are from loss of sustaining habitats to land developers, ranchers, miners, and loggers and from direct attacks from recreational hunters and commercial trappers.

## WILDLIFE SAVED

**L**ogic tells us that we must urgently pursue creative and effective solutions to the inhumane consequences of so many years of seizing natural habitats and appropriating wild animals. This is precisely why we have formed the HSUS Wildlife Land Trust, a separately incorporated affiliate of The HSUS: To protect wild animals by preserving their natural habitats and by providing them sanctuary within those habitats.

Properties placed under the trust's care remain undeveloped places where wildlife is perpetually protected from human exploitation of any kind. In a very real sense, what we have undertaken in establishing the

Protection of wild animals in natural, serene environments is essential for their survival.

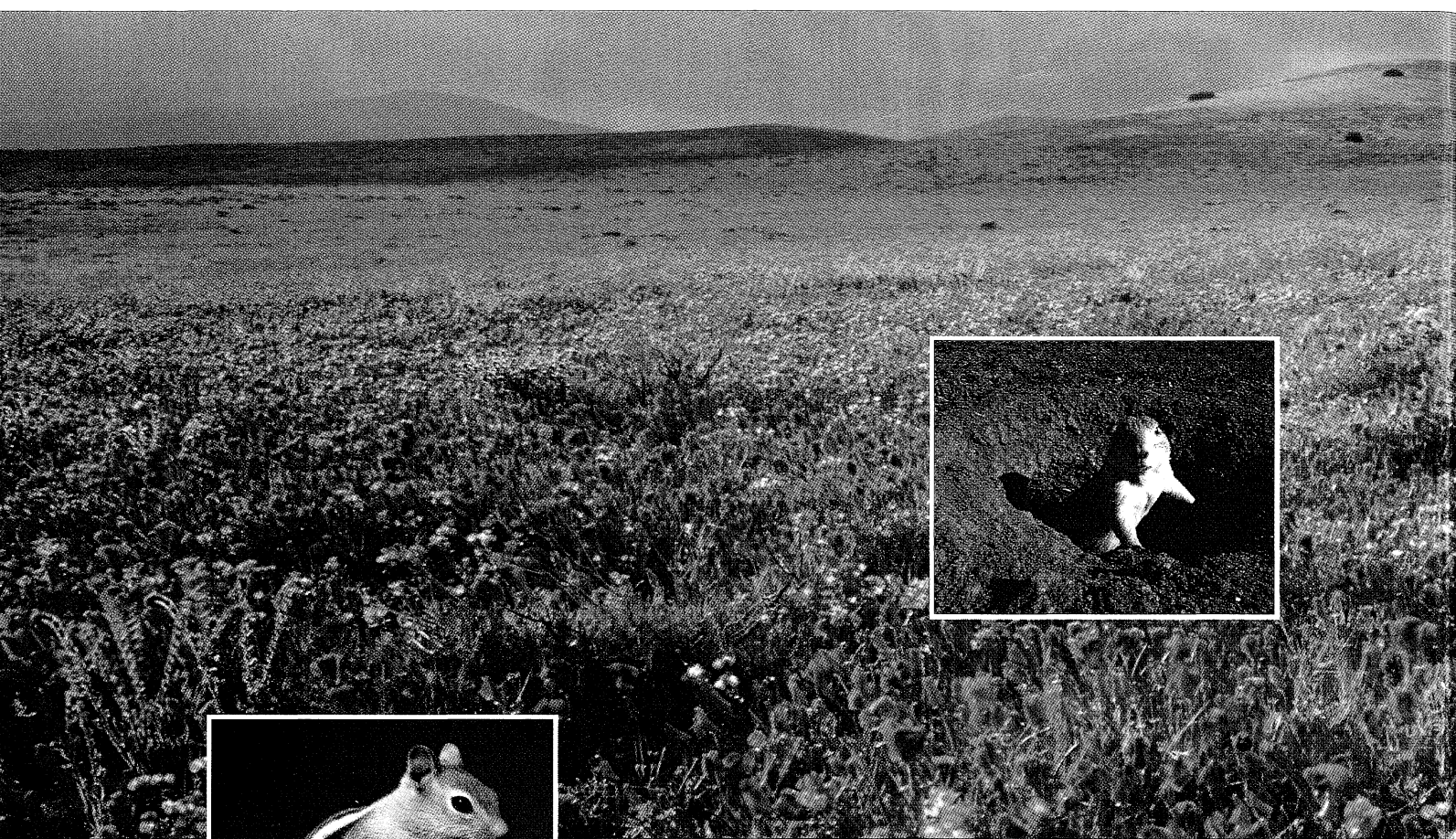


A promise of sanctuary is made with all wild animals living on

lands held or controlled by the HSUS Wildlife Land Trust. These protected animals thereafter benefit from the principles of kindness, justice, compassion, and reverential respect for life.

BY JOHN F. KULLBERG, ED.D.





HYMANS/TONY STONE IMAGES; INSET LEFT: DAVIS/TONY STONE IMAGES; INSET RIGHT: BRANDENBURG/MINDEN PICTURES

You can help the HSUS Wildlife Land Trust. As a land or conservation-easement donor, you will provide a lasting legacy for present and future generations.

HSUS Wildlife Land Trust is an international wild-animal-sheltering program of extraordinary magnitude, a "hands-on" effort to keep hands off wildlife, where our "shelters without walls" are permanent sanctuaries that assure freedom, not constraint. The populations we envision protecting number in the billions.

#### A GLOBAL EFFORT

Several hundred acres have already been pledged to our trust's protection. Barbara and Charles Birdsey recently donated a wildlife-rehabilitation center to The HSUS. Located in Barnstable, Massachusetts, on Cape Cod's north coast, this center will be used as a training site for wildlife rehabilitators from around the country. Further expanding on their generous and determined commitment to help wildlife, the Birdseys have also offered to the HSUS Wildlife Land Trust two hundred acres of pristine wildlife habitat in southern New Hampshire.

Interest in placing wildlife habitat under our caring protection has been received from trust supporters in Maine, New York, New Jersey, Florida, North Dakota, Utah,

California, Georgia, Brazil, and Costa Rica. Our goal is to have significant wildlife habitat secured by our trust in all fifty states and in several other countries by the year 2000.

Saving wildlife is a global concern in need of an increasingly effective global response. The HSUS Wildlife Land Trust encompasses such a response with vigilance and permanency. Anyone who owns undeveloped wildlife habitat and would like to have that land remain undisturbed should seriously consider placing some or all of it under the protective care of our trust. Such a principled and far-reaching stewardship decision, once made, can also provide generous tax benefits.

#### PROBATE WOES

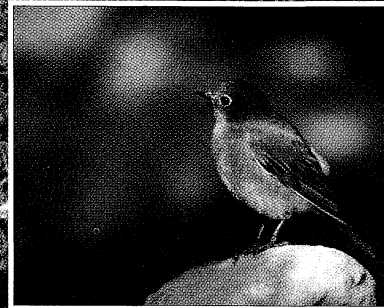
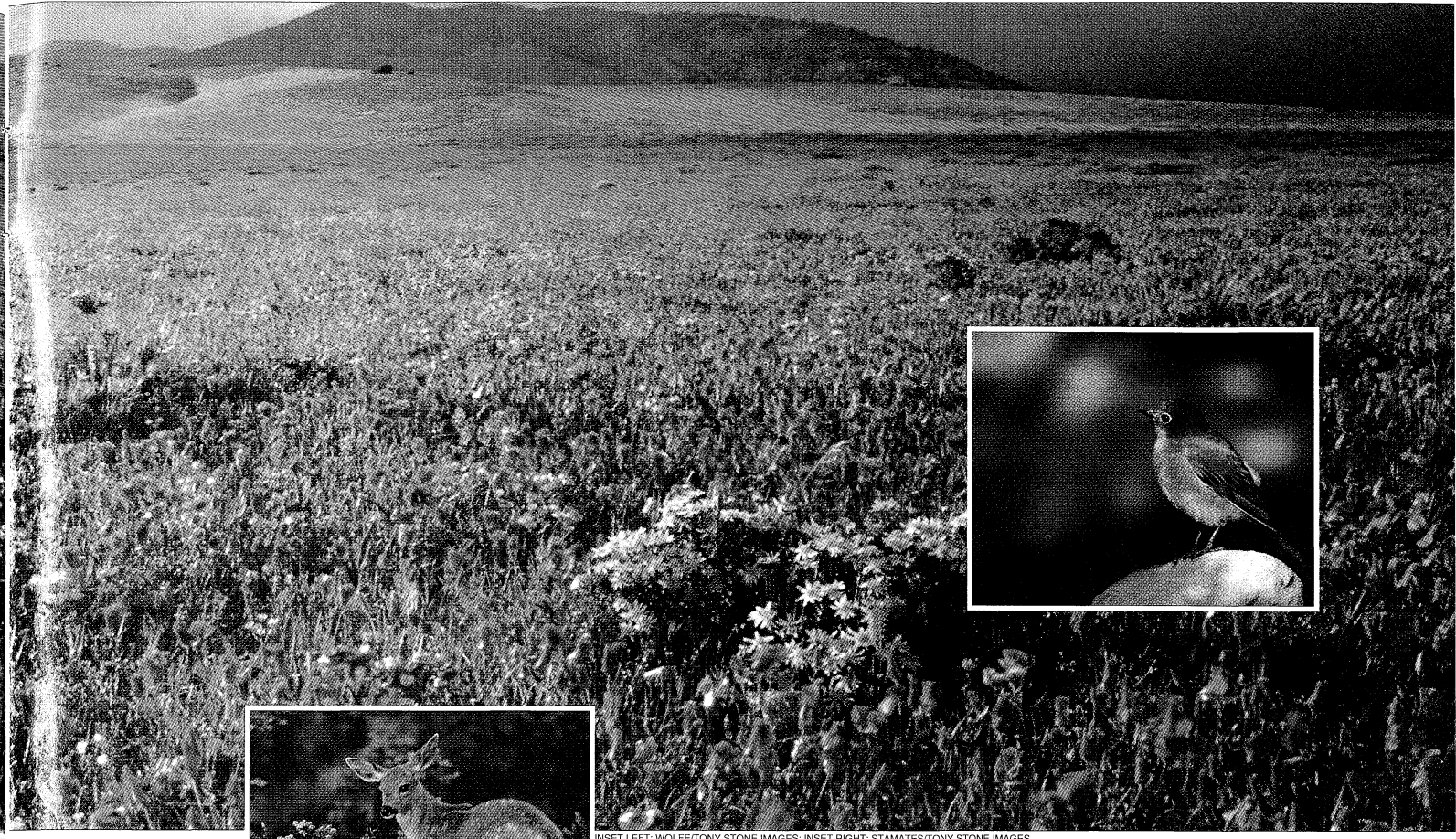
Governments heavily tax appreciated property (i.e., property whose current value exceeds its original cost) passed on to heirs. Recipients of such property must, within nine months of probate, pay combined state and federal taxes that can exceed 50 percent of the difference between the land's most recent appraised value and its original cost. As a consequence inherited family properties that may have increased in value by hundreds

of thousands of dollars frequently undergo a forced and quick sale, typically to developers, in order to pay burdensome inheritance taxes.

Were these properties secured by the protective stewardship of the HSUS Wildlife Land Trust, their sale for tax purposes would not be required, and developers would not have yet another opportunity to remove precious and life-sustaining habitat from wild animals whose very existence depends on nondevelopment.

Protecting valuable land by including it in our trust, while assuring its permanent availability to heirs and others for nonexploitive enjoyment, is a prudent and wise estate-planning option that can have extraordinary long-term, lifesaving benefits. If more landowners understood this, significantly more sustaining habitat would remain preserved and available for the unspoiled appreciation of the generation that succeeds us and the generations that succeed it. No opportunity for greater long-term beneficial influence on our environment and its diversity of wildlife exists.

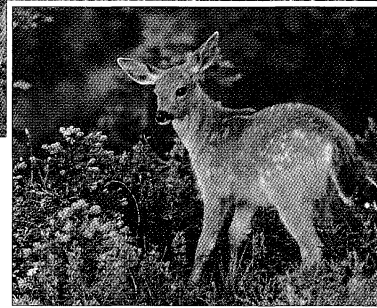
The HSUS Wildlife Land Trust also accepts properties that may not be suitable as permanent wildlife sanctuaries. We can sell such properties (or trade them) for



INSET LEFT: WOLFE/TONY STONE IMAGES; INSET RIGHT: STAMATES/TONY STONE IMAGES

A gift of land or a conservation easement can result in significant tax savings. Any donation you make helps us to provide quality-of-life protection for wildlife.

more suitable wildlife habitat



and to fund ongoing stewardship responsibilities. In special cases, we will protect wildlife properties for a limited time through leasehold agreements or similar management arrangements. Postponing development, even temporarily, can often lead to postponing it forever. Temporary holdings also buy time for existing wildlife.

#### THE EVALUATION PROCESS

When potential trust properties are brought to our attention, we carefully and thoroughly evaluate them on a case-by-case basis. After our initial investigation, those that we believe might be suitable as wildlife sanctuaries are visited by knowledgeable trust representatives. If the results of such visits continue to support inclusion in our trust, we then initiate more extensive assessments by environmental experts, who determine whether or not the lands are free from waste hazards, legal restrictions, or other risks that might prudently advise against our accepting them as permanent trust sanctuaries. Our perpetual stewardship decisions bind our successors, and prudence, therefore, rules

the assessment process.

Properties that we ultimately determine are suitable for sanctuary designation are considered for either title transfer to our perpetual trust care or stewardship-oversight transfer through legally enforceable agreements (called "conservation easements"). In the latter case, the landowner does not relinquish ownership, but he/she does legally and perpetually protect his/her property against future development. In either case the land will remain permanently safe from habitat exploitation.

#### OUR COMMITMENT

HSUS Wildlife Land Trust permanent sanctuaries are posted and monitored—no recreational hunting and no commercial trapping, fishing, or logging will ever be permitted. Individuals caught violating our protective mandates are legally dealt with in ways that underscore our commitment to the permanent preservation of trust lands as safe, undeveloped havens for wildlife.

Since our acceptance of permanent stewardship responsibilities can be very costly, we ask each land and conservation-easement donor to consider ways to help support financially our permanent over-

sight responsibilities through a major gift and/or an estate gift commitment to our stewardship endowment fund. We are similarly dependent on the stewardship interest and support of wildlife-friendly foundations and corporations and our individual supporters, who generously and frequently respond to our need to be as successful as possible as quickly as possible.

Countless generations of wild animals will benefit from HSUS Wildlife Land Trust-secured natural habitats because thoughtful individuals who could contribute land or otherwise support our trust did so. One of these individuals could be you. If you are in a position to help but have not yet become a trust supporter, please join our important crusade to effectively protect the imperiled habitats of wild animals. It is their planet we share, and it is they whom, in fairness, we should be defending more and destroying less.

To help our trust help wildlife forever, please contact the HSUS Wildlife Land Trust, 2100 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037, (202) 452-1100, fax: (301) 258-3080. ■

*John F. Kullberg, Ed.D., is executive director of the HSUS Wildlife Land Trust.*





# TO PROTECT THE TAIGA

*The vast expanses of the untamed taiga represent one of our last chances on this planet to preserve relatively intact ecosystems in their natural state where all of nature's creations can interact in the way they were meant to do.*—Pat Rasmussen, executive director of the Alliance to Save the Russian Taiga Forest

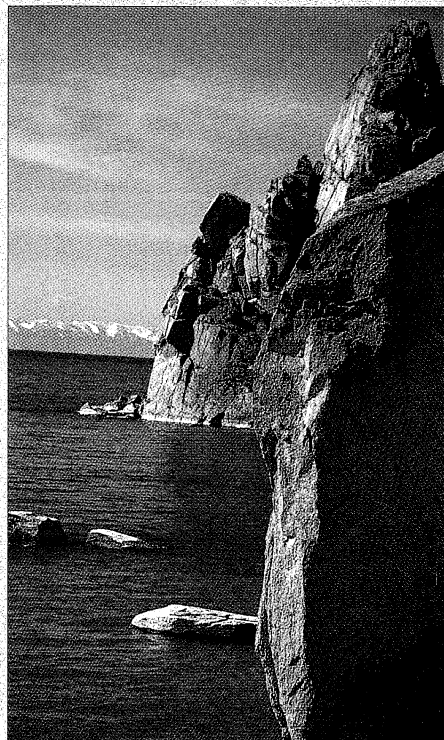
**E**nvision a healthy, robust forest stretching across twelve time zones. This dark green blanket, the taiga, covers 2.3 million square miles, roughly the area of the continental United States, and extends from Scandinavia to the Pacific coast of

Russia. It is the largest forest in the world. More than half of it has never been cut. Although previously protected by the political isolationism of the Soviet government, this biologically rich, mysterious land now stands vulnerable, unprotected against the hunger of international timber and paper companies. If not approached humanely and sustainably, the taiga and all the beings who must live there are in serious danger.

To protect the taiga and all its creatures, the Alliance to Save the Russian Taiga Forest has been established. "Through the alliance, we will be bringing attention to the threat to the taiga as a



Although several organizations exist to protect aspects of the taiga, "We created the alliance in order to pool our strength," says John A. Hoyt.



Lake Baikal is home to unique species, including freshwater seals and sponges that purify the lake.

whole and constructing a joint strategy to preserve it," says John A. Hoyt, EarthKind president and cochairman (with the National Audubon Society's Brock Evans) of the alliance. EarthKind, the National Audubon Society, the Siberian Forest Protection Project, and the Ancient Forest Protection Campaign have undertaken the task of linking experienced Pacific Northwest forest-watch groups with forest activists in Russia.

The taiga is alive. Wolves roam free across its great expanses. Siberian tigers and sable, both endangered, make this forest of larch, fir, spruce, birch, and aspen their home. Brown bear, elk, wolverine, and northern lynx, as well as reindeer, Altai wapiti, musk deer, hares, and various rodents (such as red squirrels, Siberian chipmunks, and red-backed voles), depend on the taiga to meet their daily needs of food, water, and shelter. Two-barred crossbills, nutcrackers, and woodpeckers feed on the seeds of the larch, spruce, and pine. Grouse eat pine needles, catkins, buds, and berries. Some birds feed in winter on dormant insects that inhabit cracks and crannies in the bark and crowns of

## EARTHKIND IN ACTION

### EARTHKIND AND THE IESC JOIN FORCES

**E**arthKind is implementing the concept of humane, sustainable development through the promotion of an Earth ethic as an indispensable centerpiece for governmental and business activities and through the creation of new organizations that encourage the use of environmentally sound technologies. Businesses and environmentalists must shoulder their joint responsibility to improve the quality of life for human beings by building sustainable communities without degrading or destroying the interdependent systems of the natural world.

EarthKind has joined with the International Executive Service Corps (IESC) to establish and support sustainable-development resource centers around the world. The IESC was created thirty years ago to provide retired American businessmen and women with an

and the IESC are establishing local councils in developing countries to coordinate policy for the sustainable-development resource centers. The councils, composed of environmental nongovernmental organizations, business entities, academic institutions, and governmental leaders, first will assess needs in a given sector, such as wastewater minimization, energy-efficiency potential, or pollution-prevention technologies. They will then turn to EarthKind and the IESC for managerial support, professional expertise, and access to an array of bilateral and multilateral networks that act as resources in various sectors of the economy.

The outstanding leadership team of the IESC, guided by its president and CEO, Hobart C. Gardiner, has been responsive to strategies developed by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) under the administration of Brian Atwood. Mr. Gardiner has demonstrated his vision and commitment by positioning the IESC in the



(From left) IESC's Harvey Wallender, USAID's Jeff Seabright, and EarthKind's Jan Hartke discuss issues with U.S. vice president Al Gore, Jr.

Once this new partnership reaches its full potential, EarthKind and the IESC will have brought together in the name of environmentally sustainable development the largest number of business and environmental leaders since the Earth Summit of 1992.

To empower local people, EarthKind

forefront of the movement to foster sustainable development and preserve the environment.

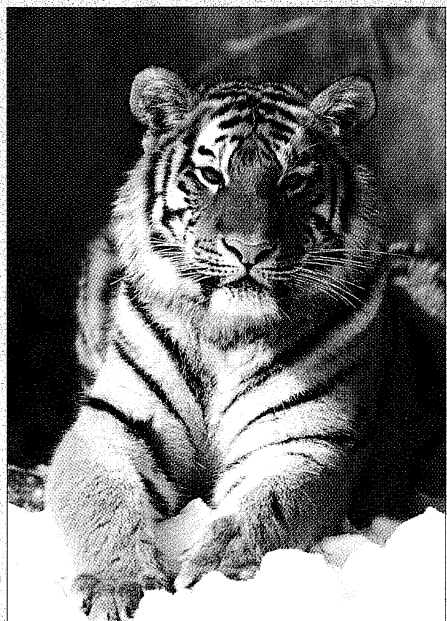
This partnership has been aided tremendously by the efforts of K. William Wiseman, former chairman of the HSUS board of directors.—Jan A. Hartke, Esq., executive director, EarthKind (USA) □





**"The creation of the Alliance to Save the Russian Taiga Forest gives new hope that the largest forest on Earth will receive the global concern it warrants," says Viatcheslav Slouzhivov, president of EarthKind (Russia).**

trees. Few animals migrate in winter, when snow covers the land, although temperatures drop to a hundred degrees below zero. They have adapted themselves to live in the harsh climate. The relation-



**The magnificent Siberian tiger is one of the species with special needs that are met by the taiga.**

ship between the coniferous trees of the taiga and these animals and birds is crucial, since many players in the predator-prey cycle feed on conifer seeds. Directly or indirectly, the yield of conifer seeds limits the number of wild animals that can be supported by the taiga.

The Siberian tiger, which inhabits the southeastern corner of the taiga, has special needs that are met by the forest. This splendid cat is much larger than other tigers. The male can measure nine to twelve feet from head to tip of tail, and three and a half feet at the shoulder; it can weigh 400 to 650 pounds. Its range is larger than that of any other tiger species and it frequently makes long journeys in search of food. This king of tigers

eats more than twenty pounds of meat each day to sustain itself in the cold climate. It preys mainly on deer and wild pig, but it will eat fish. Due to overhunting, poaching, and loss of habitat, fewer than two hundred Siberian tigers remain in the wild. Since logging depletes the habitat not only of the tiger, but also that

of its prey—wild boar and deer—the wild Siberian tiger faces a double threat and risk of extinction.

Set like a jewel in the taiga is the Earth's most ancient lake, Lake Baikal, which the Russians consider sacred. Between twenty million and twenty-five million years of age, it is 420 miles long, 55 miles wide, and more than a mile deep. It holds one-fifth of the earth's fresh water. In and around Lake Baikal live 1,550 varieties of animals and 1,085 kinds of plants. Of these species, half are unique to the region. The Russian environmental movement was born when the Soviet government first established a pulp mill beside Russia's sacred "sea." In order to

save Lake Baikal, ordinary people challenged the Soviet system during dangerous times. Scientists lost their jobs for protesting against exploitation of the lake and its resources. Friends of Lake Baikal around the world believe it should be protected as a world treasure. —Jan A. Hartke, Esq., executive director, EarthKind (USA)

**"THE PRESSURES ON THIS GREAT FOREST INCREASE AS ... DEBATES CONTINUE."**  
—Viatcheslav Slouzhivov

# PEACE CORPS PARTNERSHIP

One of EarthKind's "Eyes of the Earth" cameras will soon be roving deep beneath the South Pacific seas near the kingdom of Tonga, thanks to an EarthKind-Peace Corps partnership program. An underwater camera mounted on a remotely operated vehicle (ROV) designed at Tonga's 'Atenisi University will be used in conjunction with the school's marine biology program to protect the balance and diversity of Tonga's marine flora and fauna.

Tonga comprises approximately 150 islands in the South Pacific. Far from barren, Tonga's waters are home to some of the planet's most fascinating creatures.

The endangered black coral, often used for jewelry, is said to be nearing extinction. Plans are in place for monitoring the black coral with the ROV-mounted camera. The coral needs no sunlight and grows best on the deepest parts of a reef—too deep for monitoring by skin or scuba divers. If deepwater black coral is sparse or localized, then protected areas will be needed to help it colonize larger areas.

The camera will also be keeping tabs on the destructive behavior of the crown of thorns starfish, locally called 'Alamea. The 'Alamea has been known to ascend from its normal deepwater habitat during its population explosions. The cause of these explosions is not understood, but they have a devastating effect on the reef ecology and on those who make their living from the reef. 'Alamea clear-cuts coral polyps, leaving none behind to re-

**Tropical coral is at risk from the crown of thorns starfish along reefs in the waters off Tonga.**

generate the coral colony. Without healthy coral, other reef organisms die or move on. Yearly monitoring of deepwater juvenile 'Alamea can provide warning of im-

pending population increases.

To begin its work, the ROV is taken to its operation site aboard a vessel. It is winched into the sea within a protective cage. At the desired depth, the ROV is activated by a human "pilot" through a remote-control, fiber-optic communication link. The ROV leaves its cage and is free to roam one thousand feet. The pilot can see on a television monitor what the ROV's camera is recording and uses a joystick and control panel to "fly" the ROV. When the mission is complete or the battery runs low, the ROV is guided back to the cage and retrieved.

The project is directed by the Peace Corps's Paul Fieseler, a veteran of the U.S. space shuttle program. —Jan A. Hartke, Esq., executive director, EarthKind (USA)





# MARKETPLACE

## A GIFT FROM HEREND

The HSUS would like especially to acknowledge a recent substantial monetary gift to our work from a corporation.

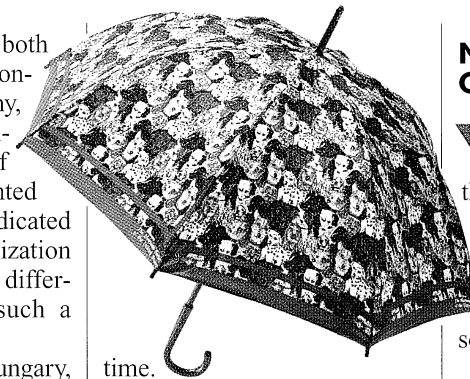
Martin's Herend Imports and PresenTense, the exclusive importers of Herend Porcelain and Herend Village Pottery, are famous for their hand-painted animal figurines. Their proud elephant and whimsical rabbit were popular items in our 1994 gift catalog, which was part of the Fall 1994 *HSUS News*. "We have a very

strong link to animals, both professionally and personally," said Diane Murphy, president of both companies and the owner of dogs and cats. "We wanted to associate with a dedicated animal-protection organization where we could make a difference; The HSUS is such a group."

Imported from Hungary, the figurines and dinnerware are available nationwide in more than five hundred stores.

## SAVING FOR A RAINY DAY

From now on, when it's raining cats and dogs, you'll be able to keep dry and help support The HSUS at the same



time.

Shaw Creations, the largest supplier of umbrellas and rainwear in the country, has been licensed to produce HSUS umbrellas that are a breed apart. Two designs, featuring dogs, are available at national retail chains, including Macy's and T. J. Maxx. Six percent of the wholesale price goes to support The HSUS.

## NEW PICTURES ON HSUS CHECKS

You need checks anyway, so why not join the tens of thousands of people who have ordered checks from The HSUS? Twenty percent of the cost of your order goes to support the work of the society.

Each set features four different images in full color—a cat, a dolphin, an elephant, and dogs—and is available as single or duplicate checks. You'll also get a free vinyl check cover with the HSUS logo, choices of free check lettering, and a free transaction register. See the ad on the opposite page, and note the new mailing address.

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- ☐ Enclose all the above items in an envelope and mail to:  
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**c/o Affinity Products**  
**P.O. Box 59165**  
**Minneapolis, MN 55459-0165**

20 percent of your order goes to support HSUS. Orders shipped to address printed on check, unless otherwise specified. Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery. For your protection, we will accept written orders only. We reserve the right not to process incomplete orders. For more information, call us toll-free at 1-800-327-7123, 7 am to 7 pm Central Time. Ask for your HSUS Specialist.

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1. Print YOUR name & address. This is what we'll print on your labels.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

2. Select label styles for yourself. Attach additional sheets if necessary. SAVE \$1.00 PER SET. Variety Packs too, when you order 2 or more sets! # OF SETS STYLE # DESCRIPTION AMOUNT

3. Select GIFTS. Attach sheet with name and address of recipient, style #, and whether to send gift(s) to you or directly to recipient.

# OF GIFTS SETS \_\_\_\_\_ Same price as orders for yourself. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

4. Add \$1.00 PER SET for postage and handling. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

5. PAYMENT ☐ Check ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard TOTAL = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CARD # \_\_\_\_\_ EXP DATE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE (required) \_\_\_\_\_ M5AA

**The Humane Society of the United States**

KATHERINE ADAMS  
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Humane Society Dreams — L102

**The Humane Society of the United States**

KURT & MARY BRYANT  
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Humane Society Splash — L103

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Seeing Spots — J47

Cozy Kittens — L63

Collie — L67

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Golden Pup — K72

Elegant Persian — B88

Penguin Parade — J50

Mother & Colt — L76

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Satisfaction Guaranteed

## COMPLETE ORDER FORM BELOW.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Day phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Start my checks with # \_\_\_\_\_ (We'll use 1001 if not specified).

☐ Check enclosed Payable to Affinity Products Charge my account: ☐ VISA® ☐ MasterCard

Credit Card Acct. # \_\_\_\_\_

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## SELECT AN ELEGANT LETTERING STYLE:

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5380-77631

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☐ 400 (\$29.90) 2 boxes ☐ 300 (\$33.90) 2 boxes

☐ 600 (\$44.85) 3 boxes ☐ 450 (\$50.85) 3 boxes

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☐ 200 (\$14.95) 1 box ☐ 150 (\$16.95) 1 box

☐ 400 (\$29.90) 2 boxes ☐ 300 (\$33.90) 2 boxes

☐ 600 (\$44.85) 3 boxes ☐ 450 (\$50.85) 3 boxes

Check Subtotal \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping & Handling \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (add \$.95 per box)

**PRIORITY MAIL** \$3.50 (Optional)

Add 7% Sales Tax \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Grand Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Make checks payable to Affinity Products)

Mail to: Affinity Products

P.O. Box 59165, Minneapolis, MN 55459-0165

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with your order.

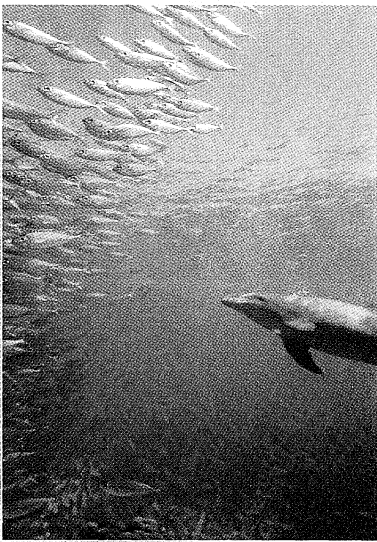


# THE CASE AGAINST CAPTIVITY: SPEAKING FOR WHALES AND DOLPHINS

In recent months the plight of captive cetaceans—from *Free Willy's* "Keiko" to the U.S. Navy's unwanted dolphins—has received unprecedented media attention. The 1995 HSUS symposium will mark a major exploration of the ethical issues surrounding the captivity of whales and dolphins and their return to the wild. The program will include updates on the highly publicized captives, insights from well-known whale and dolphin experts, and an art show celebrating the beauty of cetaceans. To take advantage of Seattle's superb coastal location, we plan a whale-watching expedition. Mark your calendar now and join

**1995 HSUS  
Symposium and  
Annual Meeting  
October 6-7, 1995  
Stouffer Madison Hotel  
Seattle, Washington**

us as we explore one of the most challenging animal-protection issues of the decade. Details will appear in the Summer 1995 *HSUS News*.



The Humane Society of the United States  
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